



Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.

A STOCK COMPANY
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

**CERTIFICATE
GROUP EYE CARE PPO INSURANCE**

The Policyholder PINE LAKE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Policy Number 10-57980 **Insured Person**

Plan Effective Date January 1, 2022 **Certificate Effective Date**
Refer to Exceptions on 9070

Plan Change Effective Date January 1, 2024

Class Number 2

Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. certifies that you will be insured for the benefits described on the following pages, according to all the terms of the group policy numbered above which has been issued to the Policyholder.

Possession of this certificate does not necessarily mean you are insured. You are insured only if you meet the requirements set out in this certificate.

The group policy may be amended or cancelled without the consent of the insured person.

The group policy and this certificate are governed by the laws of the state in which the group policy was delivered.

**IMPORTANT CANCELLATION INFORMATION. PLEASE READ THE PROVISION
ENTITLED "TERMINATION DATES" FOUND WITHIN THE CONDITIONS OF INSURANCE
ON PAGE 9070.**

LATE ENTRANTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A WAITING PERIOD. SEE PAGE 9060.

READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.

President

GRIEVANCE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

If all or part of a claim is denied, You may appeal. You may also request a review of Our benefit decision. You must request a review in writing. This request must be within 180 days after receiving notice of the denial.

You may send Us written comments. You may also send other items to support Your claim. You may review and receive copies of any non-privileged information that is relevant to Your appeal. There will be no charge for such copies. You may request the names of the experts We may have consulted who provided advice to Us about Your claim. You may also request, at no charge, any clinical rationale and/or specific clinical guidelines relied upon by them for any benefit determinations related to dental necessity.

The appeal review will be conducted by someone other than the person who denied the claim. The new reviewer will not be subordinate to that person. The person conducting the review will not give deference to the initial denial decision. Denials may be based in whole or in part on a medical judgment. This includes determinations with regard to whether a service was considered experimental, investigational, and/or not medically necessary. The person conducting the review will consult with a qualified health care professional.

This health care professional will be someone other than the person who made the original judgment and will not be subordinate to that person. Our review will include any written comments or other items You submit to support Your claim.

If Your appeal is about urgent care, You may call Toll Free at 877-897-4328 and an Expedited Review will be conducted. Verbal notification of Our decision will be made within 72 hours, followed by written notice within 3 calendar days after that.

If Your appeal is about benefit decisions related to clinical or medical necessity, a Standard Consultant Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

If Your appeal is about benefit decisions related to coverage, a Standard Administrative Review will be conducted. A written decision will be provided within 60 calendar days of the receipt of the request for appeal.

Any request for review concerning this claim should be sent to:

**Quality Control
P.O. Box 82657
Lincoln, NE 68501-2657
877-897-4328 (Toll Free)
Fax 402-309-2579**

You always have the right to contact the Department of Insurance:

**North Carolina Department of Insurance
1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1201
800-546-5664 - in North Carolina
919-807-6750 - outside North Carolina**

Pursuant to NCGS 58-50-61 and 62, services are available through the North Carolina Department of Insurance. To access this program, contact:

**Health Insurance Smart NC
North Carolina Department of Insurance
325 N. Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27603**

1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1201
855-408-1212 Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. EST

NOTICE CONCERNING COVERAGE LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS UNDER THE NORTH CAROLINA LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT

Residents of this state who purchase life insurance, annuities or health insurance should know that the insurance companies and Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) licensed in this state to write these types of insurance are members of the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association. The purpose of this association is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer or HMO becomes financially unable to meet its obligations. If this should happen, the guaranty association will assess its other member companies for the money to pay the claims of the insured persons who live in this state and, in some cases, to keep coverage in force. The valuable extra protection provided by these insurers through the guaranty association is not unlimited, however. And, as noted *in the box* below, this protection is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting companies that are well-managed and financially stable.

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

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

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

The North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association
4441 Six Forks Rd Ste 106-153
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609-5729
<https://www.nclifega.org/>

North Carolina Department of Insurance, Consumer Services Division
1201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1201

The state law that provides for this safety-net coverage is called the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act. *On the back of this page* is a brief summary of this law's coverages, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law; nor does it in any way change anyone's rights or obligations under the act or the rights or obligations of the guaranty association.

COVERAGE

Generally, individuals will be protected by the life and health guaranty association if they live in this state and hold a life or health insurance contract, or an annuity, or if they are insured under a group insurance contract, issued by a member insurer or HMO. The beneficiaries, payees or assignees of insured persons are protected as well, even if they live in another state.

EXCLUSIONS FROM COVERAGE

However, persons holding such policies are not protected by this association if:

- They are eligible for protection under the laws of another state (this may occur when the insolvent insurer was incorporated in another state whose guaranty association protects insureds who live outside that state);
- The insurer was not authorized to do business in this state;
- Their policy was issued by a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company or similar plan in which the policyholder is subject to future assessments, or by an insurance exchange.
- They acquired rights to receive payments through a structured settlement factoring transaction.

The association also does not provide coverage for:

- Any policy or portion of a policy which is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which the individual has assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus;
- Any policy of reinsurance (unless an assumption certificate was issued);
- Interest rate yields that exceed the average rate specified in the law;
- Dividends;
- Experience or other credits given in connection with the administration of a policy by a group contractholder;
- Employers' plans to the extent they are self-funded (that is, not insured by an insurance company, even if an insurance company administers them);
- Unallocated annuity contracts (which give rights to group contractholders, not individuals), unless they fund a government lottery or a benefit plan of an employer, association or union, except that unallocated annuities issued to employee benefit plans protected by the Federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation are not covered.
- A policy or contract commonly known as Medicare Part C, Medicare Part D, Medicaid or any regulations issued pursuant thereto.

LIMITS ON AMOUNT OF COVERAGE

The act also limits the amount the association is obligated to pay out as follows:

- (1) The guaranty association cannot pay out more than the insurance company would owe under the policy or contract.
- (2) Except as provided in (3), (4) and (5) below, the guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$300,000 per individual, per insolvency, no matter how many policies or types of policies issued by the insolvent company.
- (3) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$500,000 with respect to a health benefit plan.
- (4) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$1,000,000 with respect to the payee of a structured settlement annuity.
- (5) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$5,000,000 to any one unallocated annuity contract holder.

Non-Insurance Products/Services

From time to time we may arrange, at no additional cost to you or your group, for third-party service providers to provide you access to discounted goods and/or services, such as purchase of eye wear or prescription drugs. These discounted goods or services are not insurance. While we have arranged these discounts, we are not responsible for delivery, failure or negligence issues associated with these goods and services. The third-party service providers would be liable.

To access details about non-insurance discounts and third-party service providers, you may contact our customer connections team or your plan administrator.

These non-insurance goods and services will discontinue upon termination of your insurance or the termination of our arrangements with the providers, whichever comes first.

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SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS **OUTLINE OF COVERAGE**

The Insurance for each Insured and each Insured Dependent will be based on the Insured's class shown in this Schedule of Benefits.

<u>Benefit Class</u>	<u>Class Description</u>
Class 2	Employee Electing Vision Plan

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

When you select a Preferred Provider, a discounted fee schedule is used which is intended to provide you, the Insured, reduced out of pocket costs. Your out-of-pocket expenses may be greater when you visit a Non-Preferred Provider.

Deductible Amount:

When a Preferred Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Contact Lens Fitting and Evaluation - Each Benefit Period	\$60
Frames, Lenses, and Medically Necessary Contacts - Each Benefit Period	\$25

When a Non-Preferred Provider is used:

Exams - Each Benefit Period	\$10
Frames, Lenses, and Medically Necessary Contacts - Each Benefit Period	\$25

Please refer to the EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS page for details regarding frequency, limitations, and exclusions.

NOTICE: Your actual expenses for covered services may exceed the stated amount because actual provider charges may not be used to determine plan and insured payment obligations.

DEFINITIONS

COMPANY refers to Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. The words "we", "us" and "our" refer to Company. Our Home Office address is 5900 "O" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68510.

POLICYHOLDER refers to the Policyholder stated on the face page of the policy.

GROUP INSURANCE refers to insurance that covers a defined group of people.

INSURED refers to a person:

- a. who is a Member of the eligible class; and
- b. who has qualified for insurance by completing the eligibility period, if any; and
- c. for whom the insurance has become effective.

DOMESTIC PARTNER: Refers to two unrelated individuals who share the necessities of life, live together, and have an emotional and financial commitment to one another, similar to that of a spouse.

CHILD. Child refers to the child of the Insured , a child of the Insured's spouse or a child of the Insured's Domestic Partner, if they otherwise meet the definition of Dependent.

DEPENDENT refers to:

- a. an Insured's spouse or Domestic Partner.
- b. each child less than 26 years of age, for whom the Insured, the Insured's spouse, or the Insured's Domestic Partner is legally responsible, including natural born children, adopted children from the date of placement for adoption, foster children upon placement in the foster home, children covered by a court or administrative order from the date of placement, and children covered under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order as defined by applicable Federal and State laws. Grandchildren, spouses of Dependents and other Dependent family members under the age of 26 are not eligible for coverage under this plan.
- c. each child age 26 or older who is Totally Disabled and becomes Totally Disabled as defined below while insured as a dependent under b. above. Coverage of such child will not cease if proof of dependency and disability is given within 31 days of attaining the limiting age and subsequently as may be required by us but not more frequently than annually after the initial two-year period following the child's attaining the limiting age. Any costs for providing continuing proof will be at our expense.

TOTAL DISABILITY describes the Insured's Dependent as:

1. Continuously incapable of self-sustaining employment because of developmental disability or physical handicap; and
2. Chiefly dependent upon the Insured for support and maintenance.

DEPENDENT UNIT refers to all of the people who are insured as the dependents of any one Insured.

PROVIDER refers to any person who is licensed by the law of the state in which treatment is provided within the scope of the license.

PREFERRED PROVIDERS. A Preferred Provider is a Provider who has a contract with Us to provide services to Insureds at a discount. A Preferred Provider is also referred to as a “Network Provider”. The terms and conditions of the agreement with our network providers are available upon request. Members are required to pay the difference between the plan payment and the Preferred Provider’s contracted fees for covered services.

NON-PREFERRED PROVIDERS. A Non-Preferred Provider is any other provider and may also be referred to as an “Out-of-Network Provider”. Members are required to pay the difference between the plan payment and the provider’s actual fee for covered services. Therefore, the out-of-pocket expenses may be lower if services are provided by a Preferred Provider.

PLAN EFFECTIVE DATE refers to the date coverage under the policy becomes effective. The Plan Effective Date for the Policyholder is shown on the policy cover. The effective date of coverage for an Insured is shown in the Policyholder’s records.

All insurance will begin at 12:01 A.M. on the Effective Date. It will end after 11:59 P.M. on the Termination Date. All times are stated as Standard Time of the residence of the Insured.

PLAN CHANGE EFFECTIVE DATE refers to the date that the policy provisions originally issued to the Policyholder change as requested by the Policyholder. The Plan Change Effective date for the Policyholder will be shown on the policy cover, if the Policyholder has requested a change. The plan change effective date for an Insured is shown in the Policyholder’s records or on the cover of the certificate.

CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR MEMBERS. The members of the eligible class(es) are shown on the Schedule of Benefits. Each member of the eligible class (referred to as "Member") will qualify for such insurance on the day he or she completes the required eligibility period, if any. Members choosing to elect coverage will hereinafter be referred to as "Insured."

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is any employee electing vision plan working at least 20 hours per week. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

Hourly Employees are excluded from the Eligible Class for Insurance.

If both spouses are Members, and if either of them insures their dependent children, then the spouse, whoever elects, will be considered the dependent of the other. As a dependent, the person will not be considered a Member of the Eligible Class, but will be eligible for insurance as a dependent.

ELIGIBLE CLASS FOR DEPENDENT INSURANCE. Each Member of the eligible class(es) for dependent coverage is eligible for the Dependent Insurance under the policy and will qualify for this Dependent Insurance on the first of the month falling on or first following the latest of:

1. the day he or she qualifies for coverage as a Member;
2. the day he or she becomes a Member; or
3. the day he or she first has a dependent.

COVERAGE FOR NEWBORN, FOSTER, ADOPTED CHILDREN AND CHILDREN FOR WHICH A PARENT IS REQUIRED BY A COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER TO PROVIDE HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN COVERAGE. A newborn child will be covered from the date of birth. An adopted child, foster child or other child for which a parent is required by a court or administrative order to provide coverage will be covered from the date of placement.

Coverage for such child shall consist of coverage for expenses, subject to applicable deductibles, coinsurance percentages, maximums and limitations, resulting from care or treatment of congenital defects, birth abnormalities and premature birth, including, but not limited to, necessary care for individuals born with cleft lip or cleft palate.

The Insured may give us written notice within 30 days of the date of birth or placement of a dependent child to start coverage. If timely notice is given, we will not charge an additional premium for the 30-day notice period. If timely notice is not given, we will charge the applicable additional premium from the date of birth or placement. We will not deny coverage for a child due to the failure of the Insured to notify us within 30 days of the child's birth or placement.

If a parent is required by a court or administrative order to provide coverage for a child, and the parent is eligible for coverage, we will allow the parent to enroll, under the family coverage, a child who is otherwise eligible for the coverage without regard to any enrollment season restrictions.

A Member must be an Insured to also insure his or her dependents.

If employment is the basis for membership, a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance is any employee electing vision plan working at least 20 hours per week and has eligible dependents. If membership is by reason other than employment, then a member of the Eligible Class for Insurance is as defined by the Policyholder.

Hourly Employees are excluded from the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

Any spouse who elects to be a dependent rather than a member of the Eligible Class for Personal Insurance, as explained above, is not a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

When a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance dies and, if at the date of death, has dependents insured, the Policyholder has the option of offering the dependents of the deceased employee continued coverage. If elected by the Policyholder and the affected dependents, the name of such deceased member will continue to be listed as a member of the Eligible Class for Dependent Insurance.

CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS. Member Insurance: An Insured is required to contribute to the payment of his or her insurance premiums.

Dependent Insurance: An Insured is required to contribute to the payment of insurance premiums for his or her dependents.

SECTION 125. This plan is provided as part of the Employer's Section 125 Plan. Each Member has the option under the Section 125 Plan of participating or not participating in this plan.

If a Member does not elect to participate when initially eligible, the Member may elect to participate at a subsequent Election Period. This Election Period will be held each year and those who elect to participate in this plan at that time will have their coverage become effective on January 1.

Members may change their election option only during an Election Period, except for a change in family status. Such events would be marriage, divorce, birth of a child, death of a spouse or child, or termination of employment of a spouse.

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD. For Members on the Plan Effective Date of the policy, coverage is effective immediately.

For persons who become Members after the Plan Effective Date of the policy, qualification will occur on the first of the month falling on or first following the date of employment.

In no event, will the waiting period exceed 90 days after a Member's first day of employment.

OPEN ENROLLMENT. If a Member does not elect to participate when initially eligible, the Member may elect to participate at the Policyholder's next enrollment period. This enrollment period will be held each year and those who elect to participate in this policy at that time will have their insurance become effective on January 1.

If employment is the basis for membership in the Eligible Class for Members, an Insured whose eligibility terminates and is established again, may or may not have to complete a new eligibility period before he or she can again qualify for insurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Each Member has the option of being insured and insuring his or her Dependents. To elect coverage, he or she must agree in writing to contribute to the payment of the insurance premiums. The Effective Date for each Member and his or her Dependents, will be the first of the month falling on or first following:

1. the date on which the Member qualifies for insurance, if the Member agrees to contribute on or before that date.
2. the date on which the Member agrees to contribute, if that date is within 31 days after the date he or she qualifies for insurance.

EXCEPTIONS. If employment is the basis for membership, a Member must be in active service on the date the insurance, or any increase in insurance, is to take effect. If not, the insurance will not take effect until the day he or she returns to active service. Active service refers to the performance in the customary manner by an employee of all the regular duties of his or her employment with his or her employer on a full time basis at one of the employer's business establishments or at some location to which the employer's business requires the employee to travel.

A Member will be in active service on any regular non-working day if he or she is not totally disabled on that day and if he or she was in active service on the regular working day before that day.

If membership is by reason other than employment, a Member must not be totally disabled on the date the insurance, or any increase in insurance, is to take effect. The insurance will not take effect until the day after he or she ceases to be totally disabled.

TERMINATION DATES

INSUREDS. The insurance for any Insured, will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date the Insured ceases to be a Member;
2. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
3. the date the policy is terminated.

DEPENDENTS. The insurance for all of an Insured's dependents will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the **earliest of:**

1. the date on which the Insured's coverage terminates;
2. the date on which the Insured ceases to be a Member;
3. the last day of the period for which the Insured has contributed, if required, to the payment of insurance premiums; or
4. the date all Dependent Insurance under the policy is terminated.

The insurance for any Dependent will automatically terminate on the end of the month falling on or next following the day before the date on which the dependent no longer meets the definition of a dependent. See "Definitions."

CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE. If coverage ceases according to TERMINATION DATE, some or all of the insurance coverages may be continued. Contact your plan administrator for details.

Injury or Sickness For Certain Dependents

Coverage will continue for a Dependent student (see Definition of Dependent on 9060) for a covered Dependent student who takes a leave of absence from school due to an injury or illness for a period of twelve months from the last day of attendance in school, provided, however, that nothing in this provision shall require coverage of a dependent student beyond the age at which coverage would otherwise terminate.

EYE CARE EXPENSE BENEFITS

If an Insured has Covered Expenses under this section, we pay benefits as described. The Insured can choose any provider at any time.

COVERED EXPENSES

Covered Expenses include the lesser of:

- a. the charge for the covered procedure furnished; or
- b. the Maximum Covered Expense for such services or supplies shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

Covered Expenses are the eye care expenses incurred by an Insured for services or supplies. We pay up to the Maximum Covered Expense shown in the Schedule of Eye Care Services.

DEDUCTIBLE AMOUNT

The Deductible Amount is on the Schedule of Benefits. It is an amount of Covered Expenses for which no benefits are payable. It applies separately to each Insured. Benefits are paid only for those Covered Expenses that are over the Deductible Amount.

PREFERRED PROVIDERS

A Preferred Provider is a health care provider who has agreed to participate in the VSP network and has agreed to accept special reimbursement or other terms for health care services from an insurer for health care services. A Preferred Provider is not a health care provider participating in any prepaid health services or capitation arrangement implemented or administered by the Department of Health and Human Services or its representatives. For questions related to providers or benefit payments, VSP's Customer Care Division is available at (800) 877-7195.

AFFILIATE PROVIDERS

This plan includes Affiliate Providers. Affiliate Providers are providers of Covered Services and Materials who are not contracted as VSP Preferred Providers but who have agreed to bill VSP directly for Plan Benefits provided pursuant to this Schedule. However, some Affiliate Providers may be unable to provide all Plan Benefits included in this Schedule. Covered Persons should discuss requested services with their provider or contact VSP's Customer Care Division at (800)877-7195.

NON-PREFERRED PROVIDER

A Non-Preferred Provider is any other provider. Your out-of-pocket expenses may be greater when you visit a Non-Preferred Provider.

EYE CARE SUPPLIES

Eye care supplies are all services listed on the Schedule of Eye Care Services. They exclude services related to Eye Care Exams.

REQUEST FOR SERVICES

An Insured may request services from a Preferred Provider by scheduling an appointment and notifying the provider's office that the Insured has coverage for services provided by that office as a Preferred Provider.

ACCESS TO PREFERRED PROVIDERS

If you are unable to schedule a visit with a Preferred Provider within a reasonable period of time or driving distance and are not otherwise in need of emergency services, please contact us at the toll-free number shown on your ID card and we will attempt to locate a Preferred Provider for you to visit. However, if we are unable to locate a Provider for you or you are in need of emergency services and are unable to obtain such services from a Preferred Provider, we will review and pay the eligible claims submitted as if you had visited a Preferred Provider.

ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS

We pay benefits to the Preferred Provider for services and supplies performed or furnished by them. When a Non-Preferred Provider performs services, we pay benefits to the Insured unless otherwise required by state regulation.

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If your policy terminates, we will pay claims for eye care services and supplies that you received or ordered prior to your policy's termination. You will have six months following the date of service to submit your claim.

EXPENSES INCURRED

An expense is incurred at the time a service is rendered or a supply item furnished.

Notice: Your actual expenses for covered services may exceed the stated benefit amount because actual provider charges may not be used to determine plan and insured payment obligations.

PROOF OF LOSS

Written proof of loss must be given to us within 180 days after the date of such loss. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the insured, later than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

LIMITATIONS

This plan has the following limitation:

Some brands of spectacle frames may be unavailable at all locations for purchase as Covered Expenses, or may be subject to additional out-of-pocket expenses. Insureds may obtain details regarding frame brand availability from their treating provider or by calling VSP's Customer Care Division at (800) 877-7195.

EXCLUSIONS

This plan does not cover:

Services and/or materials not specifically included in this Schedule as covered Plan Benefits,

Plano lenses (lenses with refractive correction of less than plus or minus .50 diopter) except as specifically allowed in the frames benefit section below,

Services or materials that are cosmetic, including Plano contact lenses to change eye color and artistically painted Contact Lenses,

Two pairs of glasses in lieu of Bifocals,

Replacement of Spectacle Lenses, Frames, and/or contact lenses furnished under this plan that are lost or damaged, except at the normal intervals when services are otherwise available,

Orthoptics or vision training and any associated supplemental testing,

Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes,

Contact lens modification, polishing or cleaning,

The refitting of Contact Lenses after the initial 90-day fitting period,

Contact Lens insurance policies or service contracts,

Additional office visits associated with contact lens pathology,

Local, state and/or federal taxes, except where law requires us to pay,

Membership fees for any retail center in which an Affiliate or Open Access provider office may be located. Covered persons may be required to purchase a membership in such entities as a condition of accessing Plan Benefits.

SCHEDULE OF EYE CARE SERVICES

The following is a complete list of eye care services for which benefits are payable under this section. You must first pay a Deductible for certain services as indicated on the Schedule of Benefits in the - Eye Care Expense Benefits section.

SERVICE	WHEN COVERED	PLAN MAXIMUM COVERED EXPENSE	
		<i>Preferred Provider</i>	<i>Non-Preferred Provider*</i>
Vision Examination(s)			
Eye Exam	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 45.00
Contact Lens Fitting & Evaluation	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	See Elective Contact Lenses benefit below
Complete Pair of Spectacles			
Lenses (per pair, only one pair of lens type below allowed per covered period)			
Single Vision	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 30.00
Lined Bifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 50.00
Lined Trifocal	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$ 65.00
Lenticular	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$100.00
Frames			
Single Frame	Once every 24 months	\$150.00	\$ 75.00
Contact Lenses (in lieu of Complete Pair of Spectacles)			
Elective	Once every 12 months	\$150.00	\$120.00
Medically Necessary**	Once every 12 months	Covered in Full	\$210.00

Low Vision (for severe visual problems not correctable with regular lenses, as determined by the treating provider) Insureds can receive professional services for treatment of severe visual problems that are not correctable with regular lenses. The treating provider determines if an Insured's condition meets the criteria for coverage of this benefit. Insureds may contact VSP's Customer Care Division for details at (800-877-7195) for additional information.

*Insureds may receive additional savings and some services may be covered in full by choosing to visit an Affiliate Non-Preferred Provider.

**The benefit for Medically Necessary contact lenses is in lieu of the Elective contact lenses benefit listed. The treating provider determines if an Insured meets the coverage criteria for this benefit.

COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

This section applies if an Insured person has eye care coverage under more than one Plan definition below. All benefits provided under this policy are subject to this section.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS. The Order of Benefit Determination rules below determine which Plan will pay as the primary Plan. If all or any part of an Allowable Expense under this Plan is an Allowable Expense under any other Plan, then benefits will be reduced so that, when they are added to benefits payable under any other Plan for the same service or supply, the total does not exceed 100% of the total Allowable Expenses.

If another Plan is primary and this Plan is considered secondary, the amount by which benefits have been reduced during the Claim Determination Period will be used by us to pay the Allowable Expenses not otherwise paid which were incurred by you in the same Claim Determination Period. We will determine our obligation to pay for Allowable Expenses as each claim is submitted, based on all claims submitted in the current Claim Determination Period.

DEFINITIONS. The following apply only to this provision of the policy.

1. “Plan” refers to the group policy and any of the following plans, whether insured or uninsured, providing benefits for eye care services or supplies:
 - a. Any group insurance policy, but not including school-accident-type coverage, blanket, franchise individual, automobile or homeowner coverage;
 - b. Any group prepayment, group practice or group or individual service plan; or
 - c. A governmental program or coverage required or provided by any law, except Medicaid and any plan when, by law, its benefits are excess to those of any private insurance program or other non-governmental program.
2. “Allowable Expense” refers to any necessary, reasonable and customary item of expense at least a portion of which is covered under at least one of the Plans covering the Insured person for whom that claim is made. When a Plan provides services rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each service will be both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid. Benefits payable under another Plan include benefits that would have been payable had a claim been made for them.
3. “Claim Determination Period” refers to a Benefit Period, but does not include any time during which a person has no coverage under this Plan.
4. “Custodial Parent” refers to a parent awarded custody of a minor child by a court decree. In the absence of a court decree, it is the parent with whom the child resides more than half of the calendar year without regard to any temporary visitation.

ORDER OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION. When two or more Plans pay benefits, the rules for determining the order of payment are as follows:

1. A Plan that does not have a coordination of benefits provision is always considered primary and will pay benefits first.
2. If a Plan also has a coordination of benefits provision, the first of the following rules that describe which Plan pays its benefits before another Plan is the rule to use:
 - a. The benefits of a Plan that covers a person as an employee, member or subscriber are determined before those of a Plan that covers the person as a dependent.

- b. If a Dependent child is covered by more than one Plan, then the primary Plan is the Plan of the parent whose birthday is earlier in the year if:
 - i. the parents are married;
 - ii. the parents are not separated (whether or not they ever have been married); or
 - iii. a court decree awards joint custody without specifying that one party has the responsibility to provide Eye Care coverage.

If both parents have the same birthday, the Plan that covered either of the parents longer is primary.

- c. If the Dependent child is covered by divorced or separated parents under two or more Plans, benefits for that Dependent child will be determined in the following order:
 - i. the Plan of the Custodial Parent;
 - ii. the Plan of the spouse of the Custodial Parent;
 - iii. the Plan of the non-Custodial Parent; and then
 - iv. the Plan of the spouse of the non-Custodial Parent.

However, if the specific terms of a court decree establish a parent's responsibility for the child's Eye Care expenses and the Plan of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that Plan is primary. This rule applies to Claim Determination Periods or Benefit Periods commencing after the Plan is given notice of the court decree.

- d. The benefits of a Plan that cover a person as an employee who is neither laid-off nor retired (or as that employee's dependent) are determined before those of a Plan that covers that person as a laid-off or retired employee (or as that employee's dependent). If the other Plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will be ignored.
- e. If a person whose coverage is provided under a right of continuation provided by a federal or state law also is covered under another Plan, the Plan covering the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree (or as that person's dependent) is primary, and the continuation coverage is secondary. If the other Plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule will be ignored.
- f. The benefits of a Plan that has covered a person for a longer period will be determined first.

If the preceding rules do not determine the primary Plan, the allowable expenses shall be shared equally between the Plans meeting the definition of Plan under this provision. In addition, this Plan will not pay more than what it would have paid had it been primary.

RIGHT TO RECEIVE AND RELEASE NECESSARY INFORMATION. We may without your consent and notice to you:

1. Release any information with respect to your coverage and benefits under the policy; and

2. Obtain from any other insurance company, organization or person any information with respect to your coverage and benefits under another Plan.

You must provide us with any information necessary to coordinate benefits.

FACILITY OF PAYMENT. When other Plans make payments that should have been made under this Plan according to the above terms, we will, at our discretion, pay to any organizations making these payments any amounts that we decide will satisfy the intent of the above terms. Amounts paid in this way will be benefits paid under this Plan. We will not be liable to the extent of these payments.

CLAIMS OVERPAYMENT. When we make payments for Allowable Expenses in excess of the amount that will satisfy the intent of the above terms, we will recover these payments, to the extent of the excess, from the insured or provider for whom these payments were made. The amount of the payments made includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

Pursuant to NCGS 58-3-225(h), not less than 30 calendar days before we seek overpayment recovery or offset future payments, we shall give written notice to the health care provider, which notice shall be accompanied by adequate specific information to identify the specific claim and the specific reason for the recovery. The recovery of overpayments or offsetting of future payments shall be made within the two years after the date of the original claim payment unless we have reasonable belief of fraud or other intentional misconduct by the health care provider or its agents, or the claim involves a health care provider receiving payment for the same services from a government payor.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ENTIRE CONTRACT; CHANGES: This policy, including the endorsements and the attached papers, if any, constitutes the entire contract of insurance. A change in this policy is not valid until the change is approved by an executive officer of the insurer and unless the approval is endorsed on or attached to the policy. An agent does not have authority to change this policy or to waive any of its provisions.

TIME LIMIT ON CERTAIN DEFENSES: (a) After the second anniversary of the date this policy is issued, a misstatement made by the applicant in the application for the policy may not be used to void the policy or to deny a claim for loss incurred or disability (as defined in the policy) beginning after that anniversary.

GRACE PERIOD: Unless, not less than 45 days before the premium due date, We have delivered to You, or have mailed to Your last address as shown by Our records, a written notice of Our intention not to renew this policy beyond the period for which the premium has been accepted, a grace period of at least 31 days will be granted for the payment of each premium due after the first premium. During the grace period, the policy continues in force.

REINSTATEMENT. If a renewal premium is not paid before the expiration of the period granted for the Insured to make the payment, a subsequent acceptance of the premium by the insurer or any agent authorized by the insurer to accept the premium, without requiring in connection with the acceptance an application for reinstatement, reinstates the policy. However, if the insurer or authorized agent requires an application for reinstatement and issues a conditional receipt for the premium tendered, the policy will be reinstated on approval of the application by the insurer or, if the application is not approved, on the 45th day after the date of the conditional receipt unless the insurer before that date has notified the Insured in writing of the insurer's disapproval of the application. The reinstated policy covers only loss resulting from an accidental injury sustained after the date of reinstatement and loss due to sickness that begins more than 10 days after the date of reinstatement. In all other respects the Insured and insurer have the same rights under the reinstated policy as they had under the policy immediately before the due date of the defaulted premium, subject to any provisions endorsed in the policy or attached to the policy in connection with the reinstatement. Any premium accepted in connection with a reinstatement shall be applied to a period for which premium has not been previously paid, but not to any period more than 60 days before the date of reinstatement.

CLAIM FORMS: We will provide You the forms needed for filing proof of loss. If the forms are not provided before the 16th day after the date of the notice, the claimant shall be considered to have complied with the requirements of this policy as to proof of loss on submitting, within the time fixed in the policy for filing proofs of loss, written proof covering the occurrence, the character, and the extent of the loss for which the claim is made.

NOTICE OF CLAIM: Written notice of claim must be given to the insurer within 20 days after the occurrence or commencement of any loss covered by the policy, or as soon thereafter as is reasonable possible. Notice given by or on behalf of the insured or the beneficiary to the insurer at our Home Office or to any authorized agent of the insurer, with information sufficient to identify the insured, shall be deemed notice to the insurer.

PROOF OF LOSS: Written proof of loss must be furnished to the insurer at its said office in the case of a claim for loss within 180 days after the termination of the period for which the insurer is liable and in case of a claim for any other loss within 180 days after the date of the loss. Failure to furnish such proof within the time required shall not invalidate nor reduce any claim if it was not reasonably possible to give proof within such time, provided such proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible and in no event, except in the absence of legal capacity of the insured, other than one year from the time proof is otherwise required.

TIME OF PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: Indemnities payable under this policy for any loss, other than a loss for which this policy provides any periodic payment, will be paid immediately on receipt of due written proof of the loss. Subject to due written proof of loss, all accrued indemnities for a loss for which this policy provides periodic payment will be paid monthly and any balance remaining unpaid on termination of liability will be paid immediately on receipt of due written proof of loss.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND AUTOPSY: At Our own expense We have the right and opportunity to conduct a physical examination of the Insured when and as often as the insurer reasonably requires while a claim under the policy is pending and, in case of death, to require that an autopsy be conducted if not forbidden by law.

LEGAL ACTIONS: An action at law or in equity may not be brought to recover on this policy before the 61st day after the date written proof of loss has been provided in accordance with the requirements of this policy. An action at law or in equity may not be brought after the expiration of three years after the time written proof of loss is required to be provided.

CHANGE OF BENEFICIARY: Unless You make an irrevocable designation of beneficiary, the right to change a beneficiary is reserved for You, and the consent of the beneficiary or beneficiaries is not required for the surrender or assignment of this policy, for any change of beneficiary or beneficiaries, or for any other changes in this policy.

MISSTATEMENT OF AGE: If the age of an Insured has been misstated, the amounts payable under this policy are the amounts the premium paid would have purchased at the correct age.

UNPAID PREMIUM: At the time of payment of a claim under this policy, any premium then due and unpaid or covered by any note or written order may be deducted from the payment.

CANCELLATION: We may cancel this policy at any time for reasons previously disclosed by written notice delivered to You, or mailed to Your last address as shown by Our records, stating when the cancellation is effective, which may not be earlier than 45 days after the date the notice is delivered or mailed. After this policy has been continued beyond its original term, You may cancel the policy at any time by written notice delivered or mailed to Us, effective on receipt or on a later date specified in the notice. In the event of cancellation, We will promptly return the unearned portion of any premium paid. If You cancel, the earned premium shall be computed by the use of the short-rate table last filed with the state official having supervision of insurance in the state where the Insured resided when the policy was issued. If We cancel, the earned premium shall be computed pro rata. Cancellation is without prejudice to any claim originating before the effective date of cancellation.

CONFORMITY WITH STATE STATUTES: Any provision of this policy that, on its effective date, conflicts with the statutes of the state in which You reside on the effective date is by this clause effectively amended to conform to the minimum requirements of that state's statutes.

ILLEGAL OCCUPATION: We are not liable for any loss to which a contributing cause was an Insured's commission of or attempt to commit a felony or to which a contributing cause was an Insured's being engaged in an illegal occupation.

INTOXICANTS AND NARCOTICS: We are not liable for any loss sustained or contracted in consequence of an Insured's being intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic unless the narcotic is administered on the advice of a physician.

FACILITY OF PAYMENT. If an Insured or beneficiary is not capable of giving Us a valid receipt for any payment or if benefits are payable to the estate of the Insured, then We may, at Our option, pay the benefit up to an amount not to exceed \$5,000, to any relative by blood or connection by marriage of the Insured who is considered by Us to be equitably entitled to the benefit.

Any equitable payment made in good faith will release Us from liability to the extent of payment.

PROVIDER-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP. An Insured may choose any Provider who is licensed by the law of the state in which treatment is provided within the scope of his or her license. We will in no way disturb the provider-patient relationship.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Payment of any benefit under this policy is subject to the definitions and all other terms of this policy pertinent to the benefit.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION. The coverage provided under the Policy is not a substitute for coverage under a workmen's compensation or state disability income benefit law and does not relieve the Policyholder of any obligation to provide such coverage.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS. Preferred Providers have agreed to accept assignment of benefits for services and supplies performed or furnished by them. When a Non-Preferred Provider performs services, all benefits will be paid to the Insured unless otherwise indicated by the Insured's authorization to pay the Non-Preferred Provider directly.

THIS NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES ("NOTICE") DESCRIBES HOW PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED, AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

This notice describes how the Group Divisions of Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. and Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. of New York use and disclose your protected health information, and how we guard that information. We are required to abide by the terms of this notice as long as it remains in effect. We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice as necessary, and to make a new Notice effective for all protected health information maintained by us. If we do make changes to this Notice, a copy of the new Notice will be placed on our web site at www.ameritas.com and/or sent to you if the changes are material. If you reside in a state whose law provides stricter privacy protections than those provided by HIPAA, we will maintain the privacy of your health information as required by your stricter state law.

how we use or disclose information

We must use and disclose your health information to provide that information:

- To you, or someone who has the legal right to act for you (your personal representative), in order to administer your rights as described in this notice; and
- To the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, if necessary, to see that we are complying with federal privacy law and administrative simplification provisions of HIPAA.

We have the right to use and disclose your health information for your treatment, to pay for your health care, and to operate our business. For example, we typically use your information in the following ways:

- **For Payment.** We may use or disclose health information to collect premiums due to us, to determine your coverage, or to process claims for health care services you receive. For example, we may tell a provider whether you are eligible for coverage and what percentage of the bill may be covered.
- **For Treatment.** We may use or disclose health information to aid in your treatment or the coordination of your care. For example, we may disclose information to your provider to help them provide health care services to you.
- **For Health Care Operations.** We may use or disclose health information as necessary to operate and manage our business activities related to providing and managing your health care coverage. For example, we may use health information for operational activities such as quality assessment and improvement.
- **For Plan Sponsors.** If your coverage is through an employer sponsored group health plan, we may share summary health information and enrollment and disenrollment information with the plan sponsor. In addition, we may share other health information with the plan sponsor for plan administration purposes if the plan sponsor agrees to special restrictions on the use and disclosure of the information in accordance with federal law.

We may use or disclose your health information for the following purposes under limited circumstances:

- **As Required by Law.** We may disclose information about you if state or federal laws require it.
- **To Persons Involved With Your Care.** We may use or disclose your health information a person involved in your care or who helps you pay for your care, such as a family member or close personal friend, when you are incapacitated, emergency situations, or when you agree or fail to object when given the opportunity. If you are unavailable or unable to object, we will use our best judgment to decide if the disclosure is in your best interests.
- **To Law Enforcement.** We may disclose your health information to a law enforcement official to provide limited information to locate a missing person or report a crime.
- **To Correctional Institutions or Law Enforcement Officials.** We may disclose your health information if you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of law enforcement, but only if necessary for the institution to provide you with health care; to protect your health and safety, or the health and safety of others; or for the safety and security of the correctional institution.
- **To Avoid a Serious Threat to Health or Safety** to you, another person, or the public. For example, we may disclose information to a public health agency or law enforcement in the event of a natural disaster.
- **For Public Health Activities** such as reporting disease outbreaks to a valid public health authority.
- **For Reporting Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence** to government authorities that are authorized by law to receive such information, including a social services or protective service agencies.
- **For Health Oversight Activities** to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law, such as licensure, governmental audits, and fraud and abuse investigations.
- **For Judicial or Administrative Proceedings** to respond to a court order, search warrant, or subpoena.
- **For Specialized Government Functions** such as national security and intelligence activities, the protective services for the President and others, or if you are a member of the military, as required by the armed forces.
- **To Business Associates** that perform functions on our behalf or provide us with services if the information is necessary for such functions or services. Our business associates are required, under contract with us and federal law, to protect the privacy of your information and are not allowed to use or disclose any information other than allowed by the contract and federal law.
- **For Workers' Compensation** as authorized by, or to the extent necessary to comply with, state workers' compensation laws that govern job-related injuries or illness.

- **To Provide Information Regarding Decedents.** We may disclose information to a coroner or medical examiner to identify a deceased person, determine a cause of death, or as authorized by law. We may also disclose information to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.
- **For Cadaveric Organ, Eye, or Tissue Donation.** We may disclose information to entities that handle procurement, banking, or transplantation of organs, eyes, or tissue to facilitate donation and transplantation.

Except for uses and disclosures described and limited as explained in this notice, we will use and disclose your health information only with written permission from you. We will not share your personal information for marketing purposes or sell your personal information unless you give us written permission to do so.

our responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this Notice, and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described in this Notice, unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing at the contact information below if you change your mind.

your rights

- **Right to Inspect and Copy.** You have the right to inspect and copy certain protected health information that may be used to make decisions about your plan benefits. Your request must be in writing and submitted to the Ameritas Privacy Office at the contact information below. We will usually provide access to your protected health information within 30 days of receiving the request. We reserve the right to charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, or other supplies associated with your request. You may also ask your providers for access to your records. We may deny your request in very limited circumstances. If we deny your request to inspect or obtain a copy of your protected health information, we will inform you in writing of the reason(s) within 30 days.
- **Right to Amend.** You have the right to request that we amend, correct, or delete your protected health information in our records if you believe that it is inaccurate or incomplete. Your request must be in writing and sent to the Ameritas Privacy Office at the contact information below. In addition, you must provide a reason that supports your request. We will respond to your request in writing within 30 days. We may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing, or does not include a reason to support the request. If we deny your request, we will communicate the reason(s) for denial. If we deny your request, you have the right to file a written statement of disagreement and any future disclosures of the disputed information will include your statement.

- **Right to Request Confidential Communication.** You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address. Your request must be in writing and submitted to the Ameritas Privacy Office at the contact information below. We will consider all reasonable requests, and must say "yes" if you tell us you would be in danger if we do not.

- **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information.** You have the right to receive a list of the times we've shared your health information for up to six years prior to the date you ask, who we share it with, and why. Your request must be in writing and submitted to the Ameritas Privacy Office at the contact information below. We will include all the disclosures, except those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We will provide one accounting a year for free, but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

- **Know the Reasons for an Unfavorable Underwriting Decision.** You have the right to know the reason(s) for an unfavorable underwriting decision. Your request must be in writing, and must be asked for within 90 days from when the adverse underwriting decision is sent. We will respond within 21 days. Previous unfavorable underwriting decisions may not be used as a basis for future underwriting decisions unless we make an independent evaluation of basic facts. Your genetic information cannot be used for underwriting purposes.

- **Ask Us to Limit the Information We Share.** You can send us a written request at the contact information below to not use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or health care operations. We are not required to agree to these requests.

- **Get a Copy of this Privacy Notice.** You can ask us for a paper copy of this Notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the Notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

exercising your rights

- **Submitting a Written Request.** If you have any questions about this Notice, want more information about exercising your rights, or want to obtain an authorization form please contact us at: The Privacy Office, Attn. HIPAA Privacy, P.O. Box 82520, Lincoln, NE 68501-2520, e-mail us at privacy@ameritas.com, or call 1-800-487-5553
- **Filing a Complaint.** If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with us at the contact information listed above. You may also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

This revised notice is effective 9/30/17.