

**Blue Bottle Coffee,  
LLC**

**Short Term Disability Coverage**

**Long Term Disability Coverage**



# Disclosure Notice

## FOR ARKANSAS RESIDENTS

Prudential's Customer Service Office:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Disability Management Services Claim Division  
P.O. Box 13480  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19176  
1-800-842-1718

If Prudential fails to provide you with reasonable and adequate service, you may contact:

Arkansas Insurance Department  
Consumer Services Division  
1200 West Third Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1904  
1-800-852-5494

## FOR ARIZONA RESIDENTS

**Notice: This certificate of insurance may not provide all benefits and protections provided by law in Arizona. Please read this certificate carefully.**

## FOR COLORADO RESIDENTS

**THIS IS A SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN THAT IS NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE THE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE REQUIRED BY THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA). UNLESS YOU HAVE ANOTHER PLAN (SUCH AS MAJOR MEDICAL COVERAGE) THAT PROVIDES MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACA, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FEDERAL TAX PENALTY. ALSO, THE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THIS PLAN CANNOT BE COORDINATED WITH THE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY OTHER COVERAGE. PLEASE REVIEW THE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THIS PLAN CAREFULLY TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF COVERAGE.**

## FOR FLORIDA RESIDENTS

**The benefits of the policy providing your coverage are governed by the law of a state other than Florida.**

## **FOR IDAHO RESIDENTS**

If you need the assistance of the governmental agency that regulates the business of insurance, you can contact the Idaho Department of Insurance by contacting:

Idaho Department of Insurance  
Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise ID 83720-0043

1-800-721-3272 or 208-334-4250 or [www.DOI.Idaho.gov](http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov)

## **FOR INDIANA RESIDENTS**

**Questions regarding your policy or coverage should be directed to:**

**The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
(800) 842-1718**

If you (a) need the assistance of the governmental agency that regulates insurance; or (b) have a complaint you have been unable to resolve with your insurer you may contact the Department of Insurance by mail, telephone or e-mail:

State of Indiana Department of Insurance  
Consumer Services Division  
311 West Washington Street, Suite 300  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Consumer Hotline: (800) 622-4461; (317) 232-2395

Complaints can be filed electronically at [www.in.gov/idoi](http://www.in.gov/idoi).

## **FOR MARYLAND RESIDENTS**

**The Group Insurance Contract providing coverage under this certificate was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.**

## **FOR NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS**

**Notice: This Certificate of Insurance provides all of the benefits mandated by the North Carolina Insurance Code, but is issued under a group master policy located in another state and may be governed by that state's laws.**

## **FOR OKLAHOMA RESIDENTS**

**Notice: Certificates issued for delivery in Oklahoma are governed by the certificate and Oklahoma laws not the state where the master policy was issued.**

**FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS**

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

**FOR WISCONSIN RESIDENTS**

**KEEP THIS NOTICE WITH YOUR INSURANCE PAPERS**

**Problems with Your Insurance? - If you are having problems with your insurance company or agent, do not hesitate to contact the insurance company or agent to resolve your problem.**

**Prudential's Customer Service Office:**

**The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Disability Management Services Claim Division  
P.O. Box 13480  
Philadelphia, PA 19176  
1-800-842-1718**

You can also contact the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE**, a state agency which enforces Wisconsin's insurance laws, and file a complaint. You can file a complaint electronically with the **OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE** at its website at <http://oci.wi.gov/>, or by contacting:

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 7873  
Madison, WI 53707-7873  
1-800-236-8517  
608-266-0103

**THIS NOTICE IS FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS ONLY**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To obtain information or make a complaint:

You may contact the Texas Department of Insurance to obtain information on companies, coverages, rights or complaints at:

**1-800-252-3439**

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

Email: [consumerprotection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:consumerprotection@tdi.texas.gov)

**PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES:**

Should you have a dispute concerning your premium or about a claim you should contact Prudential first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

**ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR POLICY:**

This notice is for information only and does not become a part or condition of the attached document.

**AVISO IMPORTANTE**

Para obtener información o para someter una queja:

Puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener información acerca de compañías, coberturas, derechos o quejas al:

**1-800-252-3439**

Puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax: (512) 490-1007

Web: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov>

Email: [consumerprotection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:consumerprotection@tdi.texas.gov)

**DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS:**

Si tiene una disputa concerniente a su prima o a un reclamo, debe comunicarse con Prudential primero. Si no se resuelve la disputa, puede entonces comunicarse con el departamento (TDI).

**UNA ESTE AVISO A SU POLIZA:**

Este aviso es sólo para propósito de información y no se convierte en parte o condición del documento adjunto.

# Benefit Highlights

## SHORT TERM DISABILITY PLAN

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This short term disability plan provides financial protection by paying a portion of your income while you are disabled. The amount you receive is based on the amount you earned before your disability began. In some cases, you can receive disability payments even if you work while you are disabled. Benefits start after the elimination period.

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<b>Program Date:</b>	January 1, 2024
<b>Contract Holder:</b>	BLUE BOTTLE COFFEE, LLC
<b>Group Contract Number:</b>	G-71982-CA
<b>Covered Classes:</b>	All Full-Time Employees.
<b>Minimum Hours Requirement:</b>	Employees must be working at least 28 hours per week.
<b>Employment Waiting Period:</b>	<p>You may need to work for your Employer for a continuous period before you become eligible for the plan. The period must be agreed upon by your Employer and Prudential.</p> <p>Your Employer will let you know about this waiting period.</p>
<b>Elimination Period:</b>	<p>For disability due to accident, The longer of 7 days and the length of time for which you receive loss of time benefits, salary continuation or accumulated sick leave.</p> <p>For disability due to sickness, The longer of 7 days and the length of time for which you receive loss of time benefits, salary continuation or accumulated sick leave.</p> <p><b>Benefits begin the day after the Elimination Period is completed.</b></p>
<b>Weekly Benefit:</b>	<p>60% of your weekly earnings, but not more than \$2,500.00.</p> <p>Your benefit may be reduced by deductible sources of income and disability earnings. Some disabilities may not be covered under this plan.</p>
<b>Maximum Period of Benefits:</b>	12 weeks of benefits.
<b>Cost of Coverage:</b>	The short term disability plan is provided to you on a non-contributory basis. The entire cost of your coverage under the plan is being paid by your Employer.

**The above items are only highlights of your coverage. For a full description please read this entire Group Insurance Certificate.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions under the coverage(s) described in this Group Insurance Certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your coverage(s) and are made a part of your Group Insurance Certificate. Prudential has a website that describes these state-specific requirements. You may access the website at [www.prudential.com/etonline](http://www.prudential.com/etonline). When you access the website, you will be asked to enter your state of residence and your Access Code. **Your Access Code is 71982.**

If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements or have any questions, call Prudential at 1-866-439-9026.

# Benefit Highlights

## LONG TERM DISABILITY PLAN

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This long term disability plan provides financial protection for you by paying a portion of your income while you have a long period of disability. The amount you receive is based on the amount you earned before your disability began. In some cases, you can receive disability payments even if you work while you are disabled. Benefits start after the elimination period.

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- Program Date:** January 1, 2024
- Contract Holder:** BLUE BOTTLE COFFEE, LLC
- Group Contract Number:** G-71982-CA
- Covered Classes:** All Full-Time Employees.
- Minimum Hours Requirement:** Employees must be working at least 28 hours per week.
- Employment Waiting Period:** You may need to work for your Employer for a continuous period before you become eligible for the plan. The period must be agreed upon by your Employer and Prudential.  
Your Employer will let you know about this waiting period.
- Elimination Period:** 90 days.  
**Benefits begin the day after the Elimination Period is completed.**
- Monthly Benefit:** 60% of your monthly earnings, but not more than \$10,000.00.  
Your benefit may be reduced by deductible sources of income and disability earnings. Some disabilities may not be covered or may be limited under this coverage.

**Maximum Period of Benefits:**

<b>Your Age on Date Disability Begins</b>	<b>Your Maximum Benefit Duration</b>
Under age 61	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 60 months
Age 61	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 48 months
Age 62	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 42 months
Age 63	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 36 months
Age 64	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 30 months
Age 65	24 months
Age 66	21 months
Age 67	18 months
Age 68	15 months
Age 69 and over	12 months

**\*Your normal retirement age is your retirement age under the Social Security Act where retirement age depends on your year of birth.**

No contributions are required for your coverage while you are receiving payments under this plan.

**Cost of Coverage:** The long term disability plan is provided to you on a non-contributory basis. The entire cost of your coverage under the plan is being paid by your Employer.

**The above items are only highlights of your coverage. For a full description please read this entire Group Insurance Certificate.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN STATES:** There are state-specific requirements that may change the provisions under the coverage(s) described in this Group Insurance Certificate. If you live in a state that has such requirements, those requirements will apply to your coverage(s) and are made a part of your Group Insurance Certificate. Prudential has a website that describes these state-specific requirements. You may access the website at [www.prudential.com/etonline](http://www.prudential.com/etonline). When you access the website, you will be asked to enter your state of residence and your Access Code. **Your Access Code is 71982.**

If you are unable to access this website, want to receive a printed copy of these requirements or have any questions, call Prudential at 1-866-439-9026.

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The Prudential Insurance Company of America

# Certificate of Coverage

The Prudential Insurance Company of America (referred to as Prudential) welcomes you to the plan.

This is your Certificate of Coverage as long as you are eligible for coverage and you meet the requirements for becoming insured. You will want to read this certificate and keep it in a safe place. Sign your name in the space below when you receive this certificate.

Prudential has written this certificate in booklet format to be understandable to you. If you should have any questions about the content or provisions, please consult Prudential's claims paying office. Prudential will assist you in any way to help you understand your benefits.

The benefits described in this Certificate of Coverage are subject in every way to the entire Group Contract which includes this Group Insurance Certificate.

**Right to Examine this Group Insurance Certificate: If you are age 65 or older when you enroll, you may return this Group Insurance Certificate to Prudential, for any reason, within 30 days after you receive it. If you return it within this period, the insurance will be void from its Effective Date, and we will refund your contributions, if any.**

**Prudential's Address**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

**Customer Service Office**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Disability Management Services Claim Division  
P.O. Box 13480  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19176  
1-800-842-1718

**Should you have a dispute concerning your coverage you should contact Prudential first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the California Department of Insurance at the following address and phone number:**

**California Department of Insurance  
Consumer Services Division  
300 S. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90013  
1-800-927-HELP**

THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT A MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT CERTIFICATE. If you are eligible for Medicare, review the Guide to Health Insurance for People with Medicare available from the company.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employee

# General Provisions

## What Is the Certificate?

This certificate is a written document prepared by Prudential which tells you:

- the coverage to which you may be entitled;
- to whom Prudential will make a payment; and
- the limitations, exclusions and requirements that apply within a plan.

## General Definitions used throughout this certificate include:

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**You** means a person who is eligible for Prudential coverage.

**We, us, and our** means The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

**Employee** means a person who is in active employment with the Employer for the minimum hours requirement.

**Insured** means any person covered under a coverage.

**Plan** means a line of coverage under the Group Contract.

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## When Are You Eligible for Coverage?

If you are working for your Employer in a covered class, the date you are eligible for coverage is the later of:

- the plan's program date; and
- the day after you complete your **employment waiting period**.

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**Employment waiting period** means the continuous period of time that you must be in a covered class before you are eligible for coverage under a plan. The period must be agreed upon by the Employer and Prudential.

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## When Does Your Coverage Begin?

When your Employer pays the entire cost of your coverage under a plan, you will be covered at 12:01 a.m. on the date you are eligible for coverage, provided you are in **active employment** on that date.

When you and your Employer share the cost of your coverage under a plan, you will be covered at 12:01 a.m. on the latest of:

- the date you are eligible for coverage, if you apply for insurance on or before that date;
- the date you apply for insurance, if you apply within 31 days after your eligibility date; or

- the date Prudential approves your application, if **evidence of insurability** is required.

Evidence of insurability is required if you:

- are a late applicant, which means you apply for coverage more than 31 days after the date you are eligible for coverage; or
- voluntarily canceled your coverage and are reapplying; or
- apply after any of your coverage ended because you did not pay a required contribution; or
- have not met a previous evidence requirement to become insured under any plan the Employer has with Prudential.

An evidence of insurability form can be obtained from your Employer.

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**Active employment** means you are working for your Employer for earnings that are paid regularly and that you are performing with reasonable continuity the substantial and material acts necessary to pursue your usual occupation. You must be working at least 28 hours per week.

Your worksite must be:

- your Employer's usual place of business;
- an alternate work site at the direction of your Employer other than your home unless clear specific expectations and duties are documented; or
- a location to which your job requires you to travel.

Normal vacation is considered active employment.

Temporary and seasonal workers are excluded from coverage.

Individuals whose employment status is being continued under a severance or termination agreement will not be considered in active employment.

**Evidence of insurability** means a statement of your medical history which Prudential will use to determine if you are approved for coverage. Evidence of insurability will be provided at your own expense.

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## **What If You Are Absent from Work on the Date Your Coverage Would Normally Begin?**

If you are absent from work due to injury, sickness, temporary layoff or leave of absence your coverage will begin on the date you return to active employment.

## **Once Your Coverage Begins, What Happens If You Are Temporarily Not Working?**

If you are on a temporary **layoff**, and if premium is paid, you will be covered to the end of the month following the month in which your temporary layoff begins.

If you are on a **leave of absence**, and if premium is paid, you will be covered to the end of the month following the month in which your leave of absence begins.

With respect to leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) or similar state law, continuation of coverage under the plan during such leave will be governed by your Employer's policies regarding continuation of such coverage for FMLA leave purposes and any applicable law. Continuation of such coverage pursuant to this provision is contingent upon Prudential's timely receipt of premium payments and written confirmation of your FMLA leave by your Employer.

If you are working less than 28 hours per week, for reasons other than disability, and if premium is paid, you will be covered to the end of the month following the month in which your reduced hours begin.

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**Layoff or leave of absence** means you are temporarily absent from active employment for a period of time that has been agreed to in advance in writing by your Employer, other than for reasons in connection with any severance or termination agreement. Your normal vacation time, any period of disability or FMLA leave is not considered a temporary layoff.

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### When Will Changes to Your Coverage Take Effect?

Once your coverage begins, any increased or additional coverage will take effect immediately upon the effective date of the change, if you are in active employment or if you are on a covered layoff or leave of absence. If you are not in active employment due to injury or sickness, any increased or additional coverage will begin on the date you return to active employment. An increase in your long term disability coverage may be subject to a pre-existing condition limitation as described in the plan. Any decrease in coverage will take effect immediately upon the effective date of the change. Neither an increase nor a decrease in coverage will affect a **payable claim** that occurs prior to the increase or decrease.

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**Payable claim** means a claim for which Prudential is liable under the terms of the Group Contract.

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### When Does Your Coverage End?

Your coverage under the Group Contract or a plan ends on the earliest of:

- the date the Group Contract or a plan is canceled;
- the date you are no longer a member of the covered classes;
- the date your covered class is no longer covered;
- the last day of the period for which you made any required contributions;
- the last day you are in active employment except as provided under the temporary absence from work provisions; or
- the date you are no longer in active employment due to a disability that is not covered under the plan.

## **Does the Coverage under a Plan Replace or Affect any Workers' Compensation or State Disability Insurance?**

The coverage under a plan does not replace or affect the requirements for coverage by workers' compensation or state disability insurance.

## **Does Your Employer Act as Prudential's Agent?**

For purposes of the Group Contract, your Employer acts on its own behalf. Under no circumstances will your Employer be deemed the agent of Prudential.

## **Does This Certificate Address Any Rights to Other Benefits or Affect Your Employment with Your Employer?**

This certificate sets forth only the terms and conditions for coverage and receipt of benefits for Short and Long Term Disability. It does not address and does not confer any rights, or take away any rights, if any, to other benefits or employment with your Employer. Your rights, if any, to other benefits or employment are solely determined by your Employer. Prudential plays no role in determining, interpreting, or applying any such rights that may or may not exist.

## **How Can Statements Made in Your Application for this Coverage be Used?**

Prudential considers any statements you or your Employer make in a signed application for coverage a representation and not a warranty. If any of the statements you or your Employer make are not complete and/or not true at the time they are made, we can:

- reduce or deny any claim; or
- cancel your coverage from the original effective date.

If a statement is used in a contest, a copy of that statement will be furnished to you or, in the event of your death or incapacity, to your eligible survivor or personal representative.

A statement will not be contested after the amount of insurance has been in force, before the contest, for at least two years during your lifetime.

We will use only statements made in a signed application as a basis for doing this.

If the Employer gives us information about you that is incorrect, we will:

- use the facts to decide whether you have coverage under the plan and in what amounts; and
- make a fair adjustment of the premium.

## CERTIFICATE ENDORSEMENT TO GROUP CONTRACT

**Group Contract No.:** G-71982-CA

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2024.

**Covered Classes:** As shown in the Covered Classes section of your Certificate's Benefit Highlights.

This certificate endorsement is attached to and made part of the Group Contract.

Your Group Insurance Certificate is changed as follows:

- The sentence "Amounts paid to your former spouse or to your children living with such spouse will not be included", is deleted from the deductible source of income for the amount that you, your spouse and children receive as loss of time disability payments because of your disability under (a) the United States Social Security Act, (b) the Railroad Retirement Act; (c) the Canada Pension Plan; (d) the Quebec Pension Plan; or (e) any similar plan or act under the **What Are Deductible Sources of Income?** section of the **Long Term Disability Coverage - Benefit Information** pages.
- The sentence "Amounts paid to your former spouse or to your children living with such spouse will not be included" is deleted from the deductible source of income for the gross amount that you receive as retirement payments or the gross amount your spouse and children receive as retirement payments because you are receiving payments under (a) the United States Social Security Act, (b) the Railroad Retirement Act; (c) the Canada Pension Plan; (d) the Quebec Pension Plan; or (e) any similar plan or act, under the **What Are Deductible Sources of Income?** section of the **Long Term Disability Coverage - Benefit Information** pages.
- The following paragraph replaces the comparable paragraph after the numbered list of deductible sources of income under the **What Are Deductible Sources of Income?** section of the **Long Term Disability Coverage - Benefit Information** pages:

We will not reduce your payment by your Social Security retirement payments if your disability begins after your normal retirement age (your retirement age under the Social Security Act where retirement age depends on your date of birth) and you were already receiving Social Security retirement payments.

All other provisions in your Group Insurance Certificate remain unchanged.

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THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

*Margaret M. Joran*

Secretary

# Short Term Disability Coverage

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Who Is in the Covered Class(es) for the Insurance?

The Covered Classes are:

All Full-Time Employees.

### How Many Hours Must You Work to be Eligible for Coverage?

You must be working at least 28 hours per week.

### What Is Your Employment Waiting Period?

You may need to work for your Employer for a continuous period before you become eligible for the coverage. The period must be agreed upon by your Employer and Prudential.

Your Employer will let you know about this waiting period.

### Who Pays for Your Coverage?

Your coverage is paid for by your Employer.

# Short Term Disability Coverage

## BENEFIT INFORMATION

### When Are You Disabled?

You are disabled when you are either ***totally disabled*** or ***partially disabled***.

The loss of a professional or occupational license or certification does not, in itself, constitute disability.

#### **Physical Examination:**

Prudential, at our expense, shall have the right and opportunity to examine you when and as often as we may reasonably require during the pendency of a claim.

Refusal to be examined may result in denial or termination of your claim.

### When Are You Totally Disabled?

You are totally disabled when as a result of your ***sickness*** or ***injury***:

- you are unable to perform with reasonable continuity the ***substantial and material acts*** necessary to pursue your ***usual occupation***; and
- you are not working in your usual occupation.

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***Sickness*** means any disorder of your body or mind, but not an injury; pregnancy including abortion, miscarriage or childbirth. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

***Injury*** means physical harm or damage to the body. Injury which occurs before you are covered under the plan will be treated as a sickness. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

***Substantial and material acts*** means the important tasks, functions and operations generally required by employers from those engaged in your usual occupation that cannot be reasonably omitted or modified. In determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation, we will first look at the specific duties required by your Employer or job. If you are unable to perform one or more of these duties with reasonable continuity, we will then determine whether those duties are customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation. If any specific, material duties required of you by your Employer or job differ from the material duties customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation, then we will not consider those duties in determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation.

***Usual occupation*** means any employment, business, trade or profession and the substantial and material acts of the occupation you were regularly performing for your Employer when the disability began. Usual occupation is not necessarily limited to the specific job you performed for your Employer.

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## When Are You Partially Disabled?

You are partially disabled when:

- you are not totally disabled; and
- while actually working in your usual occupation, and as a result of your sickness or injury, you are unable to earn 80% or more of your **weekly earnings**

## How Long Must You Be Disabled Before Your Benefits Begin?

You must be continuously disabled through your **elimination period**. Prudential will treat your disability as continuous if your disability stops for 5 days or less during the elimination period. The days that you are not disabled will not count toward your elimination period.

Your elimination period for disability due to an accident which begins while you are covered is the longer of 7 days and the length of time for which you receive loss of time benefits, salary continuation or accumulated sick leave. Your elimination period for disability due to a sickness which begins while you are covered is the longer of 7 days and the length of time for which you receive loss of time benefits, salary continuation or accumulated sick leave.

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**Elimination period** means a period of continuous disability which must be satisfied before you are eligible to receive benefits from Prudential.

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## Can You Satisfy Your Elimination Period If You Are Working?

Yes. If you are working while you are disabled, the days you are disabled will count toward your elimination period.

## When Will You Begin to Receive Disability Payments?

You will begin to receive payments when we receive due written proof of loss, providing the elimination period has been met. We will send you a payment every two weeks for any period for which Prudential is liable.

## How Much Will Prudential Pay If You Are Disabled and Not Working?

We will follow this process to figure out your **weekly payment**:

1. Multiply your weekly earnings by 60%.
2. The maximum **weekly benefit** is \$2,500.00.
3. Compare the answer in item 1 with the maximum weekly benefit. The lesser of these two amounts is your **gross disability payment**.
4. Subtract from your gross disability payment any **deductible sources of income**.

That amount figured in item 4 is your weekly payment.

After the elimination period, if you are disabled for less than 1 week, we will send you 1/7 of your payment for each day of disability.

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**Weekly payment** means your payment after any deductible sources of income have been subtracted from your gross disability payment.

**Weekly benefit** means the total benefit amount for which you are insured under this plan subject to the maximum benefit.

**Gross disability payment** means the benefit amount before Prudential subtracts deductible sources of income and disability earnings.

**Deductible sources of income** means income from deductible sources listed in the plan that you receive while you are disabled. This income will be subtracted from your gross disability payment.

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## What Are Your Weekly Earnings?

Weekly earnings means your gross weekly income from your Employer in effect just prior to your date of disability. It does not include income received from commissions, bonuses, overtime pay, any other extra compensation, or income received from sources other than your Employer.

## What Will We Use to Determine Weekly Earnings If You Become Disabled During a Covered Layoff or Leave of Absence?

If you become disabled while you are on a covered layoff or leave of absence, we will use your weekly earnings from your Employer in effect just prior to the date your absence begins.

## How Much Will Prudential Pay If You Work While You Are Disabled?

If you work while you are disabled, we will follow this process to figure out your weekly payment:

1. Multiply your weekly earnings by 60%.
2. The maximum weekly benefit is \$2,500.00.
3. Compare the answer in item 1 with the maximum weekly benefit. The lesser of these two amounts is your gross disability payment.
4. Subtract from your gross disability payment any deductible sources of income. This is your weekly payment.
5. Your weekly payment will be adjusted by any **disability earnings** as follows:

While working, add your weekly disability earnings to your gross disability payment. If this amount is less than or equal to 100% of your weekly earnings, Prudential will not further reduce your weekly payment. If this amount is more than 100% of your weekly earnings, Prudential will subtract the amount over 100% from your weekly payment.

Prudential may require you to send proof of your weekly disability earnings on a weekly basis. As part of your proof of disability earnings, we can require that you send us appropriate financial records, including copies of your IRS federal income tax return, W-2's and 1099's, which are necessary to substantiate your income.

After the elimination period, if you are disabled for less than 1 week, we will send you 1/7 of your payment for each day of disability.

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**Disability earnings** means the earnings which you receive for work performed while you are disabled and working for:

- your Employer; or
- another employer, but only if you became employed after your disability began.

Salary continuance paid to supplement your disability earnings will not be considered payment for work performed.

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## What Are Deductible Sources of Income?

Prudential will deduct from your gross disability payment the following deductible sources of income:

1. The amount that you receive as loss of time disability income payments under any state compulsory benefit **act** or **law**.
2. The amount of loss of time benefits that you receive under any **salary continuation or accumulated sick leave** to the extent that your weekly payment and deductible source of income, including any other group disability benefits, exceed or would exceed 100% of you weekly earnings.

Prudential will only subtract deductible sources of income which are payable as a result of the same disability.

If you are eligible for benefits under item 1 above, your payments will be reduced by an estimated benefit amount as described in the "What If You Qualify for Deductible Income Benefits?" section.

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**Law, plan or act** means the original enactment of the law, plan or act and all amendments.

**Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave** means continued payments to you by your Employer of all or part of your weekly earnings, after you become disabled as defined by the Group Contract. This continued payment must be part of an established plan maintained by your Employer for the benefit of an employee covered under the Group Contract. Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave does not include compensation paid to you by your Employer for work you actually perform after your disability begins. Such compensation is considered disability earnings, and would be taken into account as such, in calculating your weekly payment.

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## What Are Not Deductible Sources of Income?

Prudential will not deduct from your gross disability payment income you receive from, but not limited to, the following sources:

- 401(k) plans;
- profit sharing plans;
- thrift plans;

- tax sheltered annuities;
- stock ownership plans;
- non-qualified plans of deferred compensation;
- pension plans for partners;
- military pension and disability income plans;
- credit disability insurance;
- franchise disability income plans;
- a retirement plan from another Employer;
- individual retirement accounts (IRA);
- motor vehicle insurance.

### **What If Subtracting Deductible Sources of Income Results in a Zero Benefit? (Minimum Benefit)**

The minimum weekly payment is \$50.00.

### **What Happens When You Receive Certain Increases from Deductible Sources of Income?**

Once Prudential has subtracted any deductible source of income from your gross disability payment, Prudential will not further reduce your payment:

- due to a cost of living increase from that source; or
- by the amount of any increase in your Social Security income.

### **What If You Qualify for Deductible Income Benefits?**

If you are eligible for benefits under item 1 in the deductible sources of income section, you are obligated to apply for such benefits. If you have not applied for those benefits, or if you have failed to pursue them with reasonable diligence, and Prudential has a reasonable, good faith belief that you are entitled to such benefits, your payments will be reduced by an estimated benefit amount.

Prudential will use the state disability statutes as a means of reasonably estimating the amount payable.

If your payment has been reduced by an estimated amount, your payment will be adjusted when we receive proof:

- of the amount awarded; or
- that benefits have been denied and all required appeals have been completed. In this case, a lump sum refund of the estimated amount will be made to you.

### **What Happens If You Receive a Lump Sum Payment?**

If you receive a lump sum payment from any deductible source of income, the lump sum will be pro-rated on a weekly basis over the time period for which the sum was given. If no time period is stated, we will use a reasonable one.

## How Long Will Prudential Continue to Send You Payments?

Prudential will send you a payment every two weeks up to the **maximum period of payment**. Your maximum period of payment is 12 weeks during a continuous period of disability.

We will stop sending you payments on the date you fail to submit proof of continuing disability in accordance with the rules in the CLAIM INFORMATION section.

We will stop sending you payments and your claim will end on the earliest of the following:

1. The end of the maximum period of payment.
2. The date you are no longer disabled under the terms of the plan.
3. The date your weekly disability earnings exceed 80% of your weekly earnings. But, if your disability earnings are expected to fluctuate widely from week to week, then, for the purpose of this item 3, your weekly disability earnings means the average of your disability earnings over the most recent 3 weeks.
4. The date you die.

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**Maximum period of payment** means the longest period of time Prudential will make payments to you for any one period of disability.

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## What Disabilities Are Not Covered Under Your Plan?

Your plan does not cover any disabilities caused by, contributed to by, or resulting from your:

- intentionally self-inflicted injuries;
- active participation in a riot;
- commission of a felony for which you have been convicted under state or federal law; or
- **occupational sickness or injury**. However, Prudential will cover disabilities due to occupational sicknesses or injuries for partners or sole proprietors who cannot be covered by workers' compensation law.

Your plan does not cover a disability due to war, declared or undeclared, or any act of war.

Prudential will not make a payment for any period of disability during which you are incarcerated as a result of a conviction.

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**Occupational sickness or injury** means an injury or a sickness actually paid by any workers' compensation law, occupational disease law or similar law.

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## **What Happens If You Return to Work Full Time and You Become Disabled Again?**

1. If your current disability is related or due to the same cause(s) as your prior disability for which Prudential made a payment:

Prudential will treat your current disability as part of your prior claim and you will not have to complete another elimination period if you return to active employment for your Employer on a full time basis for 30 consecutive days or less. Your disability will be subject to the same terms of the plan as your prior claim.

2. If your current disability is unrelated to your prior disability for which Prudential made a payment:

Prudential will treat your current disability as a new claim and you will have to complete another elimination period. Your disability will be subject to all of the plan provisions.

If you become covered under any other group short term disability plan, you will not be eligible for payments under the Prudential plan.

## **How Can Prudential Help You and Your Employer Prevent a Disability or Help You Return to Work?**

Prudential has rehabilitation services available. As these services are designed to coordinate with your long term disability coverage, please see the Other Services section in your long term disability plan.

# Short Term Disability Coverage

## CLAIM INFORMATION

### When Do You Notify Prudential of a Claim?

You must send Prudential written notice of your claim within 20 days after the date your disability begins. If it is not possible to give notice within 20 days, it must be given as soon as is reasonably possible.

We encourage you to notify us of your claim as soon as possible, so that a claim decision can be made in a timely manner.

The claim form is available from your Employer, or you can request a claim form from us. If you do not receive the form from Prudential within 15 days of your request, send Prudential written proof of claim without waiting for the form.

You must notify us immediately when you return to work in any capacity.

### How Do You File a Claim?

You and your Employer must fill out your own section of the claim form and then give it to your attending doctor. Your doctor should fill out his or her section of the form and send it directly to Prudential.

### What Information Is Needed as Proof of Your Claim?

You must send Prudential written proof of your claim no later than 90 days after the end of the period for which Prudential is liable. If it is not possible to give proof within 90 days, it must be given no later than 1 year after the time proof is otherwise required except in the absence of legal capacity.

Your proof of claim, provided at your expense, must show:

1. That you are under the **regular care** of a **doctor**.
2. The appropriate documentation of your weekly earnings.
3. The date your disability began.
4. Appropriate documentation of the disabling disorder.
5. The extent of your disability, including restrictions and limitations preventing you from performing your usual occupation.
6. The name and address of any **hospital or institution** where you received treatment for your disability, including all attending doctors.
7. The name and address of any doctor you have seen regarding your disability.

We may request that you send satisfactory proof of continuing disability. Prudential will determine whether satisfactory proof of disability has been submitted in accordance with the rules in this section and applicable California law. This proof, provided at your expense, must be received no later than 90 days after the end of each monthly period for which Prudential is liable. If it is not possible to give proof within 90 days, it must be given no later than 1 year after the time proof is otherwise required except in the absence of legal capacity.

If necessary to determine your eligibility for benefits, you will be required to give Prudential authorization to obtain additional medical information, and to provide non-medical information as part of your proof of claim, or proof of continuing disability. Prudential will deny your claim or stop sending you payments if the required information is not submitted and such failure to submit the required information is unreasonable.

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**Regular care** means:

- you personally visit a doctor as frequently as is medically required, according to generally accepted medical standards, to effectively manage and treat your disabling condition(s); and
- you are receiving appropriate treatment and care, which conforms with generally accepted medical standards, for your disabling condition(s) by a doctor whose specialty or experience is appropriate for your disabling condition(s), according to generally accepted medical standards.

**Doctor** means a person who is performing tasks that are within the limits of his or her medical license, and:

- is licensed to practice medicine and prescribe and administer drugs or to perform surgery; or
- has a doctoral degree in Psychology (Ph.D. or Psy.D.) whose primary practice is treating patients; or
- is a legally qualified medical practitioner according to the laws and regulations of the governing jurisdiction.

Prudential will not recognize any relative including, but not limited to, you, your spouse, or a child, brother, sister, or parent of you or your spouse as a doctor for a claim that you send to us.

**Hospital or institution** means an accredited facility licensed to provide care and treatment for the condition causing your disability.

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## How Will Prudential Determine Your Eligibility for Benefits?

Prudential, and not your Employer or plan administrator, has the responsibility to fairly, thoroughly, objectively and timely investigate, evaluate and determine your eligibility for benefits for any claim you make under the Group Contract. Prudential will:

1. consider and interpret the Group Contract and all information obtained by us and submitted by you that relates to your claim for benefits; and
2. make our determination of your eligibility for benefits based on that information and in accordance with the Group Contract and applicable law.

## **Who Will Prudential Make Payments To?**

Prudential will make payments to you.

## **What Happens If Prudential Overpays Your Claim?**

Prudential has the right to recover any overpayments due to:

- fraud;
- any error Prudential makes in processing a claim; and
- your receipt of deductible sources of income.

You must reimburse us in full. We will determine the method by which the repayment is to be made.

Prudential will not recover more money than the amount we paid you.

## **What Are the Time Limits for Legal Proceedings?**

You can start legal action regarding your claim 60 days after proof of claim has been given and up to 3 years from the time proof of claim is required, unless otherwise provided under federal law.

## **How Will Prudential Handle Insurance Fraud?**

Prudential promises to focus on all means necessary to support fraud detection, investigation and prosecution.

Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for the payment of a loss is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in state prison.

Prudential will pursue all appropriate legal remedies in the event of insurance fraud.

# Long Term Disability Coverage

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Who Is in the Covered Class(es) for the Insurance?

The Covered Classes are:

All Full-Time Employees.

### How Many Hours Must You Work to be Eligible for Coverage?

You must be working at least 28 hours per week.

### What Is Your Employment Waiting Period?

You may need to work for your Employer for a continuous period before you become eligible for the coverage. The period must be agreed upon by your Employer and Prudential.

Your Employer will let you know about this waiting period.

### Who Pays for Your Coverage?

Your coverage is paid for by your Employer.

# Long Term Disability Coverage

## BENEFIT INFORMATION

### When Are You Disabled?

You are disabled when you are either ***totally disabled*** or ***partially disabled***.

The loss of a professional or occupational license or certification does not, in itself, constitute disability.

#### **Physical Examination:**

Prudential, at our expense, shall have the right and opportunity to examine you when and as often as we may reasonably require during the pendency of a claim.

Refusal to be examined may result in denial or termination of your claim.

### When Are You Totally Disabled?

You are totally disabled when as a result of your ***sickness*** or ***injury***:

- you are unable to perform with reasonable continuity the ***substantial and material acts*** necessary to pursue your ***usual occupation***; and
- you are not working in your usual occupation.

After 24 months of payments, you are totally disabled when, as a result of the same sickness or injury, you are unable to engage with reasonable continuity in any occupation in which you could reasonably be expected to perform satisfactorily in light of your age, education, training, experience, station in life, and physical and mental capacity.

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***Sickness*** means any disorder of your body or mind, but not an injury; pregnancy including abortion, miscarriage or childbirth. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

***Injury*** means physical harm or damage to the body. Injury which occurs before you are covered under the plan will be treated as a sickness. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

***Substantial and material acts*** means the important tasks, functions and operations generally required by employers from those engaged in your usual occupation that cannot be reasonably omitted or modified. In determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation, we will first look at the specific duties required by your Employer or job. If you are unable to perform one or more of these duties with reasonable continuity, we will then determine whether those duties are customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation. If any specific, material duties required of you by your Employer or job differ from the material duties customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation, then we will not consider those duties in determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation.

**Usual occupation** means any employment, business, trade or profession and the substantial and material acts of the occupation you were regularly performing for your Employer when the disability began. Usual occupation is not necessarily limited to the specific job you performed for your Employer.

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## When Are You Partially Disabled?

You are partially disabled when:

- you are not totally disabled; and
- while actually working in your usual occupation, and as a result of your sickness or injury, you are unable to earn 80% or more of your **indexed monthly earnings**.

After 24 months of payments, you are partially disabled when:

- you are not totally disabled; and
- while actually working in an occupation, and as a result of the same sickness or injury, you are unable to engage with reasonable continuity in that or any other occupation in which you could reasonably be expected to perform satisfactorily in light of your age, education, training, experience, station in life, and physical and mental capacity.

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**Indexed monthly earnings** means your monthly earnings as adjusted on each July 1 provided you were disabled for all of the 12 months before that date. Your monthly earnings will be adjusted on that date by the current annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index. Your indexed monthly earnings may increase or remain the same, but will never decrease.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) is published by the U.S. Department of Labor. Prudential reserves the right to use some other similar measurement if the Department of Labor changes or stops publishing the CPI-W.

Indexing is only used to determine your percentage of lost earnings while you are disabled and working.

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## How Long Must You Be Disabled Before Your Benefits Begin?

You must be continuously disabled through your **elimination period**. Prudential will treat your disability as continuous if your disability stops for 30 days or less during the elimination period. The days that you are not disabled will not count toward your elimination period.

Your elimination period is 90 days.

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**Elimination period** means a period of continuous disability which must be satisfied before you are eligible to receive benefits from Prudential.

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## Can You Satisfy Your Elimination Period If You Are Working?

Yes. If you are working while you are disabled, the days you are disabled will count toward your elimination period.

## When Will You Begin to Receive Disability Payments?

You will begin to receive payments when we receive due written proof of loss, providing the elimination period has been met. We will send you a payment each month for any period for which Prudential is liable.

## How Much Will Prudential Pay If You Are Disabled and Not Working?

We will follow this process to figure out your **monthly payment**.

1. Multiply your monthly earnings by 60%.
2. The maximum **monthly benefit** is \$10,000.00.
3. Compare the answer in item 1 with the maximum monthly benefit. The lesser of these two amounts is your **gross disability payment**.
4. Subtract from your gross disability payment any **deductible sources of income**.

That amount figured in item 4 is your monthly payment.

After the elimination period, if you are disabled for less than 1 month, we will send you 1/30th of your payment for each day of disability.

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**Monthly payment** means your payment after any deductible sources of income have been subtracted from your gross disability payment.

**Monthly benefit** means the total benefit amount for which you are insured under this plan subject to the maximum benefit.

**Gross disability payment** means the benefit amount before Prudential subtracts deductible sources of income and disability earnings.

**Deductible sources of income** means income from deductible sources listed in the plan that you receive while you are disabled. This income will be subtracted from your gross disability payment.

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## What Are Your Monthly Earnings?

Monthly earnings means your gross monthly income from your Employer in effect just prior to your date of disability. It does not include income received from commissions, bonuses, overtime pay, any other extra compensation, or income received from sources other than your Employer.

## What Will We Use to Determine Monthly Earnings If You Become Disabled During a Covered Layoff or Leave of Absence?

If you become disabled while you are on a covered layoff or leave of absence, we will use your monthly earnings from your Employer in effect just prior to the date your absence begins.

## How Much Will Prudential Pay If You Work While You Are Disabled?

If you work while you are disabled, we will follow this process to figure out your monthly payment:

1. Multiply your monthly earnings by 60%.
2. The maximum monthly benefit is \$10,000.00.
3. Compare the answer in item 1 with the maximum monthly benefit. The lesser of these two amounts is your gross disability payment.
4. Subtract from your gross disability payment any deductible sources of income. This is your monthly payment.
5. Your monthly payment will be adjusted by any **disability earnings** as follows:
  - (a) During the first 12 months of payments, while working, add your monthly disability earnings to your gross disability payment.

If the answer from 5(a) is less than or equal to 100% of your indexed monthly earnings, Prudential will not further reduce your monthly payment.

If the answer from 5(a) is more than 100% of your indexed monthly earnings, Prudential will subtract the amount over 100% from your monthly payment.

- (b) After 12 months of payments, while working, we will subtract 60% of your monthly disability earnings from your monthly payment.

Prudential may require you to send proof of your monthly disability earnings on a monthly basis. As part of your proof of disability earnings, we can require that you send us appropriate financial records, including copies of your IRS federal income tax return, W-2's and 1099's, which are necessary to substantiate your income.

After the elimination period, if you are disabled for less than 1 month, we will send you 1/30th of your payment for each day of disability.

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**Disability earnings** means the earnings which you receive for work performed while you are disabled and working for:

- your Employer; or
- another employer, but only if you became employed after your disability began.

Salary continuance paid to supplement your disability earnings will not be considered payment for work performed.

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## What Are Deductible Sources of Income?

Prudential will deduct from your gross disability payment the following deductible sources of income:

1. The amount that you receive as temporary disability benefits under a workers' compensation law.
2. The amount that you receive under an occupational disease law, or any other **act** or **law** with similar intent, other than workers' compensation.
3. The amount that you receive as loss of time disability income payments under any state compulsory benefit act or law.
4. The amount that you receive as loss of time disability income payments under any governmental retirement system as the result of your job with your Employer.
5. The amount that you, your spouse and children receive as loss of time disability payments because of your disability under:
  - (a) the United States Social Security Act;
  - (b) the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - (c) the Canada Pension Plan;
  - (d) the Quebec Pension Plan; or
  - (e) any similar **plan** or **act**.

Amounts paid to your former spouse or to your children living with such spouse will not be included.

6. The amount that you receive as retirement payments or the amount your spouse and children receive as retirement payments because you are receiving payments under:
  - (a) the United States Social Security Act;
  - (b) the Railroad Retirement Act;
  - (c) the Canada Pension Plan;
  - (d) the Quebec Pension Plan; or
  - (e) any similar plan or act.

Amounts paid to your former spouse or to your children living with such spouse will not be included.

7. The amount that you receive as disability payments under your Employer's **retirement plan**. These payments will be those benefits which are paid due to disability and do not reduce the retirement benefit which would have been paid if the disability had not occurred.

No reductions will be made for amounts rolled over or transferred to an eligible retirement plan. Prudential will use the definition of eligible retirement plan as defined in Section 402 of the Internal Revenue Code including any future amendments which affect the definition.

8. The amount that you receive as retirement benefits, to the extent they are funded by Employer contributions, if they are from an insurance, annuity or pension contract, or a welfare or other employee benefit plan. However, this does not include benefits for any month before you reach normal retirement age, as defined in your Employer's retirement plan, unless you choose to receive benefits for that month. Disability benefits which reduce the retirement benefit under the plan will also be considered as retirement benefits.
9. The amount you receive under the maritime doctrine of maintenance, wages and cure. This includes only the "wages" part of such benefits.
10. The amount that you receive, due to your disability, from a third party (after subtracting attorney's fees) by judgment, settlement or otherwise.
11. The amount of loss of time benefits that you receive under any **salary continuation or accumulated sick leave** to the extent that your monthly payment and deductible source of income, including any other group disability benefits, exceed or would exceed 100% of your monthly earnings.

With the exception of retirement payments, Prudential will only subtract deductible sources of income which are payable as a result of the same disability.

We will not reduce your payment by your Social Security income if your disability begins after age 65 and you were already receiving Social Security retirement payments.

If you are eligible for benefits under items 3 or 5 above, your payments will be reduced by an estimated benefit amount as described in the "What If You Qualify for Deductible Income Benefits?" section.

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**Law, plan or act** means the original enactment of the law, plan or act and all amendments.

**Retirement plan** means a defined contribution plan or defined benefit plan. These are plans which provide retirement benefits to employees and are not funded entirely by employee contributions.

**Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave** means continued payments to you by your Employer of all or part of your monthly earnings, after you become disabled as defined by the Group Contract. This continued payment must be part of an established plan maintained by your Employer for the benefit of an employee covered under the Group Contract. Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave does not include compensation paid to you by your Employer for work you actually perform after your disability begins. Such compensation is considered disability earnings, and would be taken into account as such, in calculating your monthly payment.

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## What Are Not Deductible Sources of Income?

Prudential will not deduct from your gross disability payment income you receive from, but not limited to, the following sources:

- 401(k) plans;
- profit sharing plans;
- thrift plans;

- tax sheltered annuities;
- stock ownership plans;
- non-qualified plans of deferred compensation;
- pension plans for partners;
- military pension and disability income plans;
- credit disability insurance;
- franchise disability income plans;
- a retirement plan from another Employer;
- individual retirement accounts (IRA);
- motor vehicle insurance.

### **What If Subtracting Deductible Sources of Income Results in a Zero Benefit? (Minimum Benefit)**

The minimum monthly payment is the lesser of (a) 10% of the gross disability payment otherwise payable and (b) \$100.00.

### **What Happens When You Receive Certain Increases from Deductible Sources of Income?**

Once Prudential has subtracted any deductible source of income from your gross disability payment, Prudential will not further reduce your payment:

- due to a cost of living increase from that source; or
- by the amount of any increase in your Social Security income.

### **What If You Qualify for Deductible Income Benefits?**

If you are eligible for benefits under items 3 or 5 in the deductible sources of income section, you are obligated to apply for such benefits. If you have not applied for those benefits, or if you have failed to pursue them with reasonable diligence, and Prudential has a reasonable, good faith belief that you are entitled to such benefits, your payments will be reduced by an estimated benefit amount.

For item 3, Prudential will use the state disability statutes as a means of reasonably estimating the amount payable. For item 5, Prudential will use the Social Security tables as a means of reasonably estimating the amount payable.

If your payment has been reduced by an estimated amount, your payment will be adjusted when we receive proof:

- of the amount awarded; or

- that benefits have been denied and all required appeals have been completed. In this case, a lump sum refund of the estimated amount will be made to you.

## What Happens If You Receive a Lump Sum Payment?

If you receive a lump sum payment from any deductible source of income, the lump sum will be pro-rated on a monthly basis over the time period for which the sum was given. If no time period is stated, we will use a reasonable one.

## How Long Will Prudential Continue to Send You Payments?

Prudential will send you a payment each month up to the **maximum period of payment**. Your maximum period of payment is:

<b>Your Age on Date Disability Begins</b>	<b>Your Maximum Period of Benefits</b>
Under age 61	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 60 months
Age 61	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 48 months
Age 62	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 42 months
Age 63	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 36 months
Age 64	To your normal retirement age*, but not less than 30 months
Age 65	24 months
Age 66	21 months
Age 67	18 months
Age 68	15 months
Age 69 and over	12 months

**\*Your normal retirement age is your retirement age under the Social Security Act where retirement age depends on your year of birth.**

We will stop sending you payments on the date you fail to submit proof of continuing disability in accordance with the rules in the CLAIM INFORMATION section.

We will stop sending you payments and your claim will end on the earliest of the following:

1. The end of the maximum period of payment.
2. The date you are no longer disabled under the terms of the plan.
3. The date your monthly disability earnings exceed 80% of your indexed monthly earnings. But, if your disability earnings are expected to fluctuate widely from month to month, then, for the purpose of this item 3, your monthly disability earnings means the average of your disability earnings over the most recent 3 months.
4. The date you die.

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**Maximum period of payment** means the longest period of time Prudential will make payments to you for any one period of disability.

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## What Disabilities Have a Limited Pay Period Under Your Plan?

Disabilities which are primarily due to **mental illness** have a limited pay period during your lifetime.

The limited pay period for disabilities which are primarily due to mental illness is 24 months during your lifetime.

Prudential will continue to send you payments for disabilities primarily due to mental illness beyond the 24 month period if you meet one or both of these conditions:

1. If you are **confined** to a **hospital or institution** at the end of the 24 month period, Prudential will continue to send you payments during your **confinement**.

If you are still disabled when you are discharged, Prudential will send you payments for a recovery period of up to 90 days.

If you become reconfined at any time during the recovery period and remain confined for at least 14 days in a row, Prudential will send payments during that additional confinement and for one additional recovery period up to 90 more days.

2. In addition to item 1, if, after the 24 month period for which you have received payments, you continue to be disabled and subsequently become confined to a hospital or institution for at least 14 days in a row, Prudential will send payments during the length of the confinement.

Prudential will not pay beyond the limited pay period as indicated above, or the maximum period of payment, whichever occurs first.

Prudential will not apply the mental illness limitation to dementia if it is a result of:

- stroke;
- trauma;
- viral infection;
- Alzheimer's disease; or
- other conditions not listed which are not usually treated by a mental health provider or other qualified provider using psychotherapy, psychotropic drugs, or other similar methods of treatment as standardly accepted in the practice of medicine.

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**Mental illness** means a psychiatric or psychological condition regardless of cause. Mental illness includes but is not limited to schizophrenia, depression, manic depressive or bipolar illness, anxiety, somatization, substance related disorders and/or adjustment disorders or other conditions. These conditions are usually treated by a mental health provider or other qualified provider using psychotherapy, psychotropic drugs, or other similar methods of treatment as standardly accepted in the practice of medicine.

**Confined or confinement** for this section means a hospital stay of at least 8 hours per day.

**Hospital or institution** means an accredited facility licensed to provide care and treatment for the condition causing your disability.

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## What Disabilities Are Not Covered Under Your Plan?

Your plan does not cover any disabilities caused by, contributed to by, or resulting from your:

- intentionally self-inflicted injuries;
- active participation in a riot; or
- commission of a felony for which you have been convicted under state or federal law.

Your plan does not cover a disability caused by or substantially contributed to by a **pre-existing condition** or medical or surgical treatment of a pre-existing condition.

Your plan does not cover a disability due to war, declared or undeclared, or any act of war.

Prudential will not make a payment for any period of disability during which you are incarcerated as a result of a conviction.

## What Is a Pre-Existing Condition?

You have a pre-existing condition if both 1. and 2. are true:

1. You received medical treatment, care or services for a diagnosed condition or took prescribed medication for a diagnosed condition in the 3 months just prior to your effective date of coverage;
2. the disability caused by or substantially contributed to by the condition begins within 12 months of the date your coverage under the plan becomes effective.

## How Does the Pre-Existing Condition Work If You Were Covered Under Your Employer's Prior Plan?

Special rules apply to pre-existing conditions, if this long term disability plan replaces your Employer's prior plan and:

- you were covered by that plan on the day before this plan became effective; and
- you became covered under this plan within thirty-one days of its effective date.

The special rules are:

1. If the Employer's prior plan did not have a pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation, then a pre-existing condition will not be excluded or limited under this plan.
2. If the Employer's prior plan did have a pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation, then the limited time does not end after the first 12 months of coverage. Instead it will end on the date any equivalent limit would have ended under the Employer's prior plan.
3. If the change from your Employer's prior plan to this plan of coverage would result in an increase in your amount of benefits, the benefits for your disability that is due to a pre-existing sickness or injury will not increase. Instead the benefits are limited to the amount you had on the day before the plan change.

## What Happens If You Return to Work Full Time and Your Disability Occurs Again?

If you have a **recurrent disability**, we will treat your disability as part of your prior claim and you will not have to complete another elimination period if:

- you were continuously insured under this plan for the period between your prior claim and your current disability; and
- your recurrent disability occurs within 6 months of the end of your prior claim.

Your recurrent disability will be subject to the same terms of the plan as your prior claim. Any disability which occurs after 6 months from the date your prior claim ended will be treated as a new claim. The new claim will be subject to all of the plan provisions.

If you become covered under any other group long term disability plan, you will not be eligible for payments under the Prudential plan.

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**Recurrent disability** means a disability which is:

- caused by a worsening in your condition; and
  - due to the same cause(s) as your prior disability for which Prudential made a Long Term Disability payment.
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# Long Term Disability Coverage

## OTHER BENEFIT FEATURES

### What Benefits Will be Provided to Your Family If You Die? (Survivor Benefit)

When Prudential receives proof that you have died, we will pay your **eligible survivor** a lump sum benefit equal to 3 months of your gross disability payment if, on the date of your death:

- your disability had continued for 180 or more consecutive days; and
- you were receiving or were entitled to receive payments under the plan.

If you have no eligible survivors, payment will be made to your estate.

However, we will first apply the survivor benefit to any overpayment which may exist on your claim.

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**Eligible survivor** means your spouse or Registered Domestic Partner, if living; otherwise, your children under age 25.

Your Registered Domestic Partner means a person whose domestic partnership with you has been validly registered by the California Secretary of State; or a person with whom you have established a union other than marriage, recognized under California law as the equivalent of a Registered Domestic Partner.

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# Long Term Disability Coverage

## CLAIM INFORMATION

### When Do You Notify Prudential of a Claim?

You must send Prudential written notice of your claim within 20 days after the date your disability begins. If it is not possible to give notice within 20 days, it must be given as soon as is reasonably possible.

We encourage you to notify us of your claim as soon as possible, so that a claim decision can be made in a timely manner.

The claim form is available from your Employer, or you can request a claim form from us. If you do not receive the form from Prudential within 15 days of your request, send Prudential written proof of claim without waiting for the form.

You must notify us immediately when you return to work in any capacity.

### How Do You File a Claim?

You and your Employer must fill out your own section of the claim form and then give it to your attending doctor. Your doctor should fill out his or her section of the form and send it directly to Prudential.

### What Information Is Needed as Proof of Your Claim?

You must send Prudential written proof of your claim no later than 90 days after the end of the period for which Prudential is liable. If it is not possible to give proof within 90 days, it must be given no later than 1 year after the time proof is otherwise required except in the absence of legal capacity.

Your proof of claim, provided at your expense, must show:

1. That you are under the **regular care** of a **doctor**.
2. The appropriate documentation of your monthly earnings.
3. The date your disability began.
4. Appropriate documentation of the disabling disorder.
5. The extent of your disability, including restrictions and limitations preventing you from performing your usual occupation or any occupation in which you could reasonably be expected to perform satisfactorily in light of your age, education, training, experience, station in life, and physical and mental capacity.
6. The name and address of any **hospital or institution** where you received treatment for your disability, including all attending doctors.
7. The name and address of any doctor you have seen regarding your disability.

We may request that you send satisfactory proof of continuing disability. Prudential will determine whether satisfactory proof of disability has been submitted in accordance with the rules in this section and applicable California law. This proof, provided at your expense, must be received no later than 90 days after the end of each monthly period for which Prudential is liable. If it is not possible to give proof within 90 days, it must be given no later than 1 year after the time proof is otherwise required except in the absence of legal capacity.

If necessary to determine your eligibility for benefits, you will be required to give Prudential authorization to obtain additional medical information, and to provide non-medical information as part of your proof of claim, or proof of continuing disability. Prudential will deny your claim or stop sending you payments if the required information is not submitted and such failure to submit the required information is unreasonable.

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**Regular care** means:

- you personally visit a doctor as frequently as is medically required, according to generally accepted medical standards, to effectively manage and treat your disabling condition(s); and
- you are receiving appropriate treatment and care, which conforms with generally accepted medical standards, for your disabling condition(s) by a doctor whose specialty or experience is appropriate for your disabling condition(s), according to generally accepted medical standards.

**Doctor** means a person who is performing tasks that are within the limits of his or her medical license, and:

- is licensed to practice medicine and prescribe and administer drugs or to perform surgery; or
- has a doctoral degree in Psychology (Ph.D. or Psy.D.) whose primary practice is treating patients; or
- is a legally qualified medical practitioner according to the laws and regulations of the governing jurisdiction.

Prudential will not recognize any relative including, but not limited to, you, your spouse, or a child, brother, sister, or parent of you or your spouse as a doctor for a claim that you send to us.

**Hospital or institution** means an accredited facility licensed to provide care and treatment for the condition causing your disability.

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## How Will Prudential Determine Your Eligibility for Benefits?

Prudential, and not your Employer or plan administrator, has the responsibility to fairly, thoroughly, objectively and timely investigate, evaluate and determine your eligibility for benefits for any claim you make under the Group Contract. Prudential will:

1. consider and interpret the Group Contract and all information obtained by us and submitted by you that relates to your claim for benefits; and
2. make our determination of your eligibility for benefits based on that information and in accordance with the Group Contract and applicable law.

## **Who Will Prudential Make Payments To?**

Prudential will make payments to you.

## **What Happens If Prudential Overpays Your Claim?**

Prudential has the right to recover any overpayments due to:

- fraud;
- any error Prudential makes in processing a claim; and
- your receipt of deductible sources of income.

You must reimburse us in full. We will determine the method by which the repayment is to be made.

Prudential will not recover more money than the amount we paid you.

## **What Are the Time Limits for Legal Proceedings?**

You can start legal action regarding your claim 60 days after proof of claim has been given and up to 3 years from the time proof of claim is required, unless otherwise provided under federal law.

## **How Will Prudential Handle Insurance Fraud?**

Prudential promises to focus on all means necessary to support fraud detection, investigation and prosecution.

Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for the payment of a loss is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in state prison.

Prudential will pursue all appropriate legal remedies in the event of insurance fraud.

# Long Term Disability Coverage

## OTHER SERVICES

### How Can Prudential Help Your Employer Identify and Provide Worksite Modification?

A worksite modification might be what is needed to allow you to perform with reasonable continuity the substantial and material acts necessary to pursue your usual occupation with your Employer. At your option, one of our designated professionals will assist you and your Employer to identify a modification we agree is likely to help you remain at work or return to work. This agreement will be in writing and must be signed by you, your Employer and Prudential.

When this occurs, Prudential will reimburse you for the cost of the modification up to the greater of:

- \$1000; or
- the equivalent of 2 months of your monthly benefit.

This benefit is available to you on a one time only basis.

### How Can Prudential's Rehabilitation Program Help You Return to Work?

If you are eligible for and choose to participate in a Qualified Rehabilitation Program, Prudential will pay for the cost of the program. If you are eligible to participate, either Prudential will propose a program or you may propose a program that meets the criteria for a Qualified Rehabilitation Program indicated below.

You are eligible to participate in a Qualified Rehabilitation Program if:

1. you are disabled; and
2. you are or may become, entitled to benefits under this coverage for that disability.

A Qualified Rehabilitation Program is a program which meets all of the following criteria:

1. It is reasonably necessary to provide you with the opportunity to return to work.
2. After being in such a program, you can reasonably be expected to support yourself.
3. It has an anticipated completion date and is developed and implemented by a **qualified rehabilitation specialist** who has been selected by Prudential or you.
4. The cost of the program is reasonable in relation to the gross disability payment which is or may be provided.

The Qualified Rehabilitation Program may include, but is not limited to, the following services:

- coordination with your Employer to assist you to return to work;
- evaluation of adaptive equipment to allow you to work;

- child care during your Qualified Rehabilitation Program;
- vocational evaluation to determine how your disability may impact your employment options;
- job placement services;
- resume preparation;
- job seeking skills training;
- retraining for a new occupation; or
- assistance with relocation that may be part of a Qualified Rehabilitation Program.

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**Qualified rehabilitation specialist** means a person capable of developing and implementing a vocational rehabilitation plan and whose experience and regular duties involve the evaluation, counseling, or placement of disabled persons. This may include persons who are Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC) as defined by the national Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC).

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## **How Can Prudential’s Social Security Claimant Assistance Program Help You With Obtaining Social Security Disability Benefits?**

Prudential can arrange for expert advice regarding your Social Security disability benefits claim. If you agree to this program, the experts will assist you with your application or appeal, as long as you are disabled under the plan.

Receiving Social Security disability benefits may enable:

- you to receive Medicare after 24 months of disability payments;
- you to protect your retirement benefits; and
- your family to be eligible for Social Security benefits.

We can assist you in obtaining Social Security disability benefits by:

- helping you find appropriate legal representation;
- obtaining medical and vocational evidence; and
- reimbursing pre-approved case management expenses.

# Glossary

**Active employment** means you are working for your Employer for earnings that are paid regularly and that you are performing with reasonable continuity the substantial and material acts necessary to pursue your usual occupation. You must be working at least 28 hours per week.

Your worksite must be:

- your Employer's usual place of business;
- an alternate work site at the direction of your Employer other than your home unless clear specific expectations and duties are documented; or
- a location to which your job requires you to travel.

Normal vacation is considered active employment.

Temporary and seasonal workers are excluded from coverage.

Individuals whose employment status is being continued under a severance or termination agreement will not be considered in active employment.

**Confined or confinement** for the "What Disabilities Have a Limited Pay Period Under Your Plan?" section means a hospital stay of at least 8 hours per day.

**Contract holder** means the Employer to whom the Group Contract is issued.

**Deductible sources of income** means income from deductible sources listed in the plan that you receive while you are disabled. This income will be subtracted from your gross disability payment.

**Disability earnings** means the earnings which you receive for work performed while you are disabled and working for:

- your Employer; or
- another employer, but only if you became employed after your disability began.

Salary continuance paid to supplement your disability earnings will not be considered payment for work performed.

**Doctor** means a person who is performing tasks that are within the limits of his or her medical license, and:

- is licensed to practice medicine and prescribe and administer drugs or to perform surgery; or
- has a doctoral degree in Psychology (Ph.D. or Psy.D.) whose primary practice is treating patients; or
- is a legally qualified medical practitioner according to the laws and regulations of the governing jurisdiction.

Prudential will not recognize any relative including but not limited to you, your spouse, or a child, brother, sister, or parent of you or your spouse as a doctor for a claim that you send to us.

**Eligible survivor** means your spouse or Registered Domestic Partner, if living; otherwise, your children under age 25.

Your Registered Domestic Partner means a person whose domestic partnership with you has been validly registered by the California Secretary of State; or a person with whom you have established a union other than marriage, recognized under California law as the equivalent of a Registered Domestic Partner.

**Elimination period** means a period of continuous disability which must be satisfied before you are eligible to receive benefits from Prudential.

**Employee** means a person who is in active employment with the Employer for the minimum hours requirement.

**Employer** means the Contract Holder, and includes any division, subsidiary or affiliate who is reported to Prudential in writing for inclusion under the Group Contract, provided that Prudential has approved such request.

**Employment waiting period** means the continuous period of time that you must be in a covered class before you are eligible for coverage under a plan. The period must be agreed upon by the Employer and Prudential.

**Evidence of insurability** means a statement of your medical history which Prudential will use to determine if you are approved for coverage. Evidence of Insurability will be provided at your own expense.

**Gross disability payment** means the benefit amount before Prudential subtracts deductible sources of income and disability earnings.

**Hospital or institution** means an accredited facility licensed to provide care and treatment for the condition causing your disability.

**Indexed monthly earnings** means your monthly earnings as adjusted on each July 1 provided you were disabled for all of the 12 months before that date. Your monthly earnings will be adjusted on that date by the current annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index. Your indexed monthly earnings may increase or remain the same, but will never decrease.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) is published by the U.S. Department of Labor. Prudential reserves the right to use some other similar measurement if the Department of Labor changes or stops publishing the CPI-W.

Indexing is only used to determine your percentage of lost earnings while you are disabled and working.

**Injury** means physical harm or damage to the body. Injury which occurs before you are covered under the plan will be treated as a sickness. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

**Insured** means any person covered under a coverage.

**Law, plan or act** means the original enactment of the law, plan or act and all amendments.

**Layoff or leave of absence** means you are temporarily absent from active employment for a period of time that has been agreed to in advance in writing by your Employer, other than for reasons in connection with any severance or termination agreement. Your normal vacation time, any period of disability or FMLA leave is not considered a temporary layoff.

**Maximum period of payment** means the longest period of time Prudential will make payments to you for any one disability.

**Mental illness** means a psychiatric or psychological condition regardless of cause. Mental illness includes but is not limited to schizophrenia, depression, manic depressive, or bipolar illness, anxiety, somatization, substance related disorders, and/or adjustment disorders or other conditions. These conditions are usually treated by a mental health provider or other qualified provider using psychotherapy, psychotropic drugs, or other similar methods of treatment as standardly accepted in the practice of medicine.

**Monthly benefit** means the total benefit amount for which you are insured under this plan subject to the maximum benefit.

**Monthly earnings** means your gross monthly income from your Employer as defined in the plan.

**Monthly payment** means your payment after any deductible sources of income have been subtracted from your gross disability payment.

**Occupational sickness or injury** means an injury or a sickness actually paid by any workers' compensation law, occupational disease law or similar law.

**Part-time basis (STD)** means the ability to work and earn between 20% and 80% of your weekly earnings.

**Part-time basis (LTD)** means the ability to work and earn 20% or more of your indexed monthly earnings.

**Payable claim** means a claim for which Prudential is liable under the terms of the Group Contract.

**Plan** means a line of coverage under the Group Contract.

**Pre-existing condition** means you received medical treatment, care or services for a diagnosed condition or took prescribed medication for a diagnosed condition in the given period of time as stated in the plan.

**Qualified rehabilitation specialist** means a person capable of developing and implementing a vocational rehabilitation plan and whose experience and regular duties involve the evaluation, counseling, or placement of disabled persons. This may include persons who are Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC) as defined by the national Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC).

**Recurrent disability** means a disability which is:

- caused by a worsening in your condition; and
- due to the same cause(s) as your prior disability for which Prudential made a Long Term Disability payment.

**Regular care** means:

- you personally visit a doctor as frequently as is medically required, according to generally accepted medical standards, to effectively manage and treat your disabling condition(s); and
- you are receiving appropriate treatment and care, which conforms with generally accepted medical standards, for your disabling condition(s) by a doctor whose specialty or experience is appropriate for your disabling condition(s), according to generally accepted medical standards.

**Retirement plan** means a defined contribution plan or defined benefit plan. These are plans which provide retirement benefits to employees and are not funded entirely by employee contributions.

**Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave** means continued payments to you by your Employer of all or part of your monthly earnings, after you become disabled as defined by the Group Contract. This continued payment must be part of an established plan maintained by your Employer for the benefit of an employee covered under the Group Contract. Salary continuation or accumulated sick leave does not include compensation paid to you by your Employer for work you actually perform after your disability begins. Such compensation is considered disability earnings, and would be taken into account as such, in calculating your monthly payment.

**Sickness** means any disorder of your body or mind, but not an injury; pregnancy including abortion, miscarriage or childbirth. Disability must begin while you are covered under the plan.

**Substantial and material acts** means the important tasks, functions and operations generally required by employers from those engaged in your usual occupation that cannot be reasonably omitted or modified. In determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation, we will first look at the specific duties required by your Employer or job. If you are unable to perform one or more of these duties with reasonable continuity, we will then determine whether those duties are customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation. If any specific, material duties required of you by your Employer or job differ from the material duties customarily required of other employees or individuals engaged in your usual occupation, then we will not consider those duties in determining what substantial and material acts are necessary to pursue your usual occupation.

**Usual occupation** means any employment, business, trade or profession and the substantial and material acts of the occupation you were regularly performing for your Employer when the disability began. Usual occupation is not necessarily limited to the specific job you performed for your Employer.

**We, us, and our** means The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

**Weekly benefit** means the total benefit amount for which you are insured under this plan subject to the maximum benefit.

**Weekly earnings** means your gross weekly income from your Employer as defined in the plan.

**Weekly payment** means your payment after any deductible sources of income have been subtracted from your gross disability payment.

**You** means a person who is eligible for Prudential coverage.

## **Additional Information About Your Plan**

The Certificate of Coverage and the following Additional Information (together, the Booklet), are intended to comply with the disclosure requirements of the regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) of 1974. ERISA requires that your employer provide you with a "Summary Plan Description" which describes the plan and informs you of your rights under it. Information about eligibility rules, benefits amounts, benefit limitations, and exclusions from coverage is contained in the Certificate of Coverage. The following Additional Information about your plan is provided at the request of your Employer/Plan Sponsor.

**Plan Name**

Blue Bottle Coffee, LLC Welfare Plan

**Plan Number**

501

**Type of Plan**

Employee Welfare Benefit Plan

**Plan Sponsor**

Blue Bottle Coffee, LLC  
476 9TH Street  
Oakland, California 94607

**Employer Identification Number**

46-0805567

**Plan Administrator**

Blue Bottle Coffee, LLC  
Attention: Human Resources Department  
476 9TH Street  
Oakland, California 94607

**Agent for Service of Legal Process**

Blue Bottle Coffee, LLC  
Attention: Human Resources Department  
476 9TH Street  
Oakland, California 94607

Service of legal process may also be made upon the plan administrator at the address above.

**Plan Year Ends**

December 31

**Plan Benefits Provided by**

The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

**Plan Sponsor's Designation of Prudential As Claims Administrator**

It is the Plan Sponsor's intention and direction that The Prudential Insurance Company of America as Claims Administrator has the sole discretion to interpret the terms of the plan, to make factual findings, and to determine eligibility for benefits. The Plan Sponsor has determined that benefits are payable under the plan only if The Prudential Insurance Company of America, in its sole discretion, determines that they are due. The decision of the Claims Administrator shall not be overturned unless arbitrary and capricious. \*

\* This paragraph does not apply to residents of AK, AR, CA, CO, DC, IL, KY, MD, ME, MI, NJ, NY, OR, PR, RI, SD, TX, VT, WA

**Plan Sponsor, Policyholder and Employer not Agents of Prudential**

The Group Contract underwritten by The Prudential Insurance Company of America provides insured benefits under your Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor's ERISA plan(s). For all purposes associated with the plan or the Group Contract under which The Prudential Insurance Company of America provides benefits, the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor acts on its own behalf or as an agent of its employees. Under no circumstances will the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor be deemed the agent of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, absent a written authorization of such status executed between the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor and The Prudential Insurance Company of America. Nothing in these documents shall, of themselves, be deemed to be such a written authorization.

**Allocation of Contributions**

The insurance benefit coverages described in this Booklet are being offered to you under a single ERISA plan. Coverages described as non-contributory or as being paid entirely by the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor (if any) are those paid for directly by the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor such that you have no out of pocket expense for such coverages. However, the premium rate that the Employer/Policyholder/Plan Sponsor pays for insurance coverage offered to you under the Plan may be determined, or in some cases, reduced, in part, based on your contributions for other coverages or other benefits offered under the Plan. When this occurs, your contributions for one benefit coverage may cover some or all of the costs or plan expenses for another benefit coverage offered to you under the Plan.

**Loss of Benefits**

You must continue to be a member of a class of eligible employees or beneficiaries to which the plan pertains and continue to make any contributions or payments that are due, including those you agreed to when you enrolled for coverage. Failure to make required contributions may result in partial or total loss of your benefits.

## **Plan Sponsor May Amend or Terminate the Plan at any Time**

It is intended that this plan will be continued for an indefinite period of time. But, the Plan Sponsor reserves the right to change or terminate the plan at any time. This Booklet elsewhere describes your rights upon termination of the plan.

## **Claim Procedures**

### **1. Determination of Benefits**

Prudential shall notify you of the claim determination within 45 days of the receipt of your claim. This period may be extended by 30 days if such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide your claim, shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. This period may be extended for an additional 30 days beyond the original 30-day extension if necessary due to matters beyond the control of the plan. A written notice of the additional extension, the reason for the additional extension and the date by which the plan expects to decide on your claim, shall be furnished to you within the first 30-day extension period if an additional extension of time is needed. However, if a period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the claim, the period for making the benefit determination by Prudential will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the earlier of the date on which you respond to the request for additional information, or the 45<sup>th</sup> day following the expiration of the initial 45-day claim review period.

If your claim for benefits is denied, in whole or in part, you or your authorized representative will receive a written notice from Prudential of your denial. The notice will include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the denial, which will include a discussion of the decision describing, if applicable, the basis for disagreeing with or not following (i) the views of healthcare professionals treating you and vocational experts who evaluated you, (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the plan in connection with your adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination, and (iii) an award of Social Security Administration disability benefits,
- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the benefit determination was based,
- (c) a description of any additional material or information necessary for you to perfect a claim and an explanation of why such information is necessary,
- (d) 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 for benefits,
- (e) a description of Prudential's appeals procedures and applicable time limits, including a statement of your right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of ERISA following your appeals,

- (f) a statement that, if an adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination will be provided free of charge upon written request, and
- (g) copies of any internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria relied upon in making this determination or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria do not exist.

## **2. Appeals of Adverse Determination**

If your claim for benefits is denied, you or your representative may appeal your denied claim in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. Similarly, if Prudential does not decide your claim within the time described in Section 1 above, you may appeal, although you are not required to do so. You may submit with your appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim. Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

A full review of the information in the claim file and any new information submitted to support the appeal will be conducted by Prudential, utilizing individuals not involved in the initial benefit determination. This review will not afford any deference to the initial benefit determination.

Prudential shall make a determination on your appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date that Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled (i.e., suspended) from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the earlier of the date on which you respond to the request for additional information or the 45<sup>th</sup> day from the expiration of the initial 45-day appeal review period.

Prudential will provide you, free of charge and prior to any adverse decision on appeal, with any new or additional evidence that is considered by Prudential in connection with the claim (including evidence that may be the basis for denial as well as any evidence that may support granting the claim), and any new or additional rationale that will form the basis for the Prudential's decision on appeal. Any such evidence will be provided as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the date on which the notice of adverse benefit determination must be provided in order to give you a reasonable opportunity to respond prior to that date.

If the appeal is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will include:

- (a) the specific reason(s) for the adverse determination, which will include a discussion of the decision describing, if applicable, the basis for disagreeing with or not following (i) the views of healthcare professionals treating you and vocational experts who evaluated you, (ii) the views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the plan in connection with your adverse benefit determination,

without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination, and (iii) an award of Social Security Administration disability benefits,

- (b) references to the specific plan provisions on which the determination was based,
- (c) a statement that you are entitled to receive upon request and free of charge reasonable access to, and make copies of, all records, documents and other information relevant to your benefit claim upon request,
- (d) a description of Prudential's review procedures and applicable time limits,
- (e) a statement that if an adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination will be provided free of charge upon written request,
- (f) copies of any internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria relied upon in making this determination or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria do not exist, and
- (g) a statement describing any appeals procedures offered by the plan, and your right to bring a civil suit under ERISA.

If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.

If the appeal of your benefit claim is denied, you or your representative may make a second, voluntary appeal of your denial in writing to Prudential within 180 days of the receipt of the written notice of denial or 180 days from the date such claim is deemed denied. Similarly, if Prudential does not decide your appeal within the time described in Section 1 above, you may appeal again, although you are not required to do so. You may submit with your second appeal any written comments, documents, records and any other information relating to your claim. Upon your request, you will also have access to, and the right to obtain copies of, all documents, records and information relevant to your claim free of charge.

Prudential shall make a determination on your second claim appeal within 45 days of the receipt of your appeal request. This period may be extended by up to an additional 45 days if Prudential determines that special circumstances require an extension of time. A written notice of the extension, the reason for the extension and the date by which Prudential expects to render a decision shall be furnished to you within the initial 45-day period. However, if the period of time is extended due to your failure to submit information necessary to decide the appeal, the period for making the benefit determination will be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to you until the earlier of the date on which you respond to the request for additional information or the 45<sup>th</sup> day following the expiration of the second 45-day appeal review period.

Your decision to submit a benefit dispute to this voluntary second level of appeal has no effect on your right to any other benefits under this plan. If you elect to initiate a lawsuit without submitting to a second level of appeal, the plan waives any right to assert that you failed to exhaust administrative remedies. If you elect to submit the dispute to the second level of appeal, the plan agrees that any statute of limitations or other defense based on timeliness is tolled during the time that the appeal is pending.

If the claim on appeal is denied in whole or in part for a second time, you will receive a written notification from Prudential of the denial. The notice will be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the applicant and shall include the same information that was included in the first adverse determination letter. If a decision on appeal is not furnished to you within the time frames mentioned above, the claim shall be deemed denied on appeal.

### **Time Limit To File Suit**

If your claim for benefits and any required appeals are denied (or not decided within the time periods discussed above), you may file suit as discussed below. If you elect to file suit, you should do so as soon as possible. However, you must file suit no later than three years after proof of your claim was first due as explained elsewhere in this Booklet, regardless of whether your claim is still pending in the claim or appeal process.

### **Rights and Protections**

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

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

- Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, 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.
- 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.

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

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. The people who operate your plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including the Plan Sponsor, 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.

#### **Enforce Your Rights**

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.

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 a fine that accrues on a daily basis (based on amounts set by the Department of Labor) from the time the materials were due to you until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 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.

