

**RELIANCE STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**  
**1700 Market Street, Suite 1200, Philadelphia, PA 19103-3938**

Have a complaint or need help?

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

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

Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company

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

Call: Consumer Complaint Coordinator at  
1-800-351-7500

Toll free: 1-800-351-7500

Email: [consumer.complaints@rsli.com](mailto:consumer.complaints@rsli.com)

Mail:

1700 Market Street  
Suite 1200  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3938

The Texas Department of Insurance.

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

Call: 1-800-252-3439.

Online: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

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

Mail:

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

¿Tiene una queja o necesita ayuda?

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

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

Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company

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

Llame a: Consumer Complaint Coordinator al  
1-800-351-7500

Teléfono gratuito: 1-800-351-7500

Correo electrónico: [consumer.complaints@rsli.com](mailto:consumer.complaints@rsli.com):

Dirección postal:

1700 Market Street  
Suite 1200  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3938

El Departamento de Seguros de Texas

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

Llame: 1-800-252-3439

En línea: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

Correo electrónico:

[ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.texas.gov)

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Austin, TX 78714





# reliancestandard

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Home Office: Schaumburg, Illinois • Administrative Office: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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## CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

We certify that you (provided you belong to a class described on the Schedule of Benefits) are insured, for the benefits which apply to your class, under Group Policy No. GL 163862 issued to Michaels Stores, Inc, the Policyholder.

When loss of life covered under the Policy occurs, we will pay the amount stated on the Schedule of Benefits to the named beneficiary, subject to provisions entitled Beneficiary and Facility of Payment.

This Certificate is not a contract of insurance. It contains only the major terms of insurance coverage and payment of benefits under the Policy. It replaces all certificates that may have been issued to you earlier.

  
Secretary

  
President

## GROUP LIFE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE

This Group Life Certificate amends all previous Group Life Certificates and is dated December 17, 2024.

**SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2021, as amended in the Policy through December 1, 2024

**ELIGIBLE CLASSES:** Each active, Full-time United States and Canadian Director Level Team Member, except any person employed on a temporary or seasonal basis.

The term "Team Member" shall replace the term "employee" as shown throughout this Certificate.

**WAITING PERIOD:** 30 days of continuous employment.

**INDIVIDUAL EFFECTIVE DATE:** The first of the month coinciding with or next following completion of the Waiting Period.

**INDIVIDUAL REINSTATEMENT:** 30 Days

**AMOUNT OF INSURANCE:**

**Basic Life:** \$250,000, not to exceed five (5) times Earnings.

For Insureds age 70 and over, the Amount of Basic Life Insurance is subject to automatic reduction. Upon the Insured's attainment of the specified age below, the Amount of Basic Life Insurance will be reduced to the applicable percentage. This reduction also applies to Insureds who are age 70 or over on their Individual Effective Date.

<b>Age</b>	<b>Percentage of available or in force amount at age 69</b>
70+	50%

The Life amount will be reduced by any benefit paid under the Accelerated Benefit Rider.

**CHANGES IN AMOUNT OF INSURANCE:** Increases and decreases in the Amount of Insurance because of changes in age, class or earnings (if applicable) are effective on the date of the change.

With respect to increases in the Amount of Insurance, you must be Actively At Work on the date of the change. If you are not Actively At Work when the change should take effect, the change will take effect on the day after you have been Actively At Work in an Eligible Class for one full day.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:** You are not required to contribute toward the cost of the Basic Insurance.

## DEFINITIONS

"We," "us" and "our" means Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company.

"You," "your" and "yours" means a person who meets the eligibility requirements of the Policy and is enrolled for this insurance.

"Actively at work" and active work" means actually performing on a Full-time basis each and every duty pertaining to your job in the place where and the manner in which the job is normally performed. This includes approved time off such as vacation, jury duty and funeral leave, but does not include time off as a result of injury or illness.

"Full-time" means working for the Policyholder for a minimum of 30 hours during your regularly scheduled work Week.

"The date you retire" or "retirement" means the effective date of your:

- (1) retirement pension benefits under any plan of a federal, state, county or municipal retirement system, if such pension benefits include any credit for employment with the Policyholder;
- (2) retirement pension benefits under any plan which the Policyholder sponsors, or makes or has made contributions;
- (3) retirement benefits under the United States Social Security Act of 1935, as amended, or under any similar plan or act.

"Earnings", as used in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS section, means your annual salary received from the Policyholder on the day just before the date of loss, prior to any deductions to a 401(k) and Section 125 plan. Earnings does not include commissions, overtime pay, bonuses, incentive pay or any other special compensation not received as basic salary.

"Total Disability" as used in the WAIVER OF PREMIUM IN EVENT OF TOTAL DISABILITY section, means your complete inability to engage in any type of work for wage or profit for which you are suited by education, training or experience.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### INCONTESTABILITY

Any statement made in the Policyholder's application will be deemed a representation, not a warranty. We cannot contest the validity of the Policy after it has been in force for two (2) years from the date of issue, except for non-payment of premium. All other Policy terms will remain applicable.

Any statements made by you, or on your behalf to persuade us to provide coverage, will be deemed a representation, not a warranty. This provision limits our use of these statements in contesting the amount of insurance for which you are covered. The following rules apply to each statement:

- (1) No statement will be used in a contest unless:
  - (a) it is in a written form signed by you, or on your behalf; and
  - (b) a copy of such written instrument is or has been furnished to you, your beneficiary or legal representative.
- (2) If the statement relates to your insurability, it will not be used to contest the validity of insurance which has been in force, before the contest, for at least two (2) years during your lifetime.

### ASSIGNMENT

Ownership of any benefit provided under the Policy may be transferred by assignment. An irrevocable beneficiary must give written consent to assign this insurance. Written request for assignment must be made in duplicate at our Administrative Offices. Once recorded by us, an assignment will take effect on the date it was signed. We are not liable for any action we take before the assignment is recorded.

## EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF INDIVIDUAL INSURANCE:** If the Policyholder pays the entire premium, the insurance for an Eligible Person will go into effect on the date stated on the Schedule of Benefits.

If you pay a part of the premium, you must apply in writing for the insurance to go into effect. You will become insured on the later of:

- (1) the Individual Effective Date stated on the Schedule of Benefits, if you apply on or before that date; or
- (2) the first of the month coinciding with or next following the date you apply, if you apply within thirty-one (31) days from the date you first met the eligibility requirements; or
- (3) the first of the month coinciding with or next following the date we approve any required proof of good health. We require proof of good health if you apply:
  - (a) after thirty-one (31) days from the date you first become eligible; or
  - (b) after you terminated this insurance but you remained in a class eligible for this insurance; or
  - (c) for an Amount of Insurance greater than the guaranteed issue Amount of Insurance shown on the Schedule of Benefits, if applicable; or
  - (d) for an Amount of Insurance greater than you were insured for under the prior group life insurance plan carrier, if applicable; or
  - (e) after being eligible for coverage under a prior group life insurance plan for more than thirty-one (31) days but did not elect to be covered under that prior plan; or
- (4) the date premium is remitted.

Proof of good health forms are available from us upon request. It is the Policyholder's responsibility to provide proof of good health forms to you when required.

Changes in your Amount of Insurance are effective as shown on the Schedule of Benefits.

If you are not Actively at Work on the day your insurance is to go into effect, the insurance will go into effect on the day you return to Active Work in an Eligible Class for one full day.

**TERMINATION OF INSURANCE:** Your insurance will terminate on the first of the following to occur:

- (1) the date the Policy terminates; or
- (2) the date you cease to be in a class eligible for this insurance; or
- (3) the end of the period for which premium has been paid for you; or
- (4) the date you enter military service on active duty (not including Reserve or National Guard).

**CONTINUATION OF INSURANCE:** Your insurance may be continued, by payment of premium, beyond the date you cease to be eligible for this insurance, but not longer than:

- (1) twelve (12) months, if due to illness or injury; or
- (2) one (1) month, if due to temporary lay-off or approved leave of absence.

**REINSTATEMENT:** Insurance may be reinstated if you were:

- (1) on an approved leave of absence, or
- (2) on a temporary lay-off.

You must return to Active Work with the Policyholder within the period of time shown on the Schedule of Benefits. You must also be a member of a class eligible for this insurance.

You will not be required to fulfill the Waiting Period of the Policy again. The insurance will go into effect on the day you return to Active Work for one full day. If you return after having resigned or having been discharged, you will be required to fulfill the Eligibility Requirements of the Policy again.

If you request insurance after previously terminating insurance at your request or for failure to pay premium when due, proof of good health must be approved by us before your insurance coverage may be reinstated.



## CONVERSION PRIVILEGE

You can use this privilege when your insurance is no longer in force. It has several parts. They are:

- A. If the insurance ceases due to termination of employment or membership in any of the Policy's classes, an individual Life Insurance Policy may be issued. You are entitled to a policy without disability or supplemental benefits. You must make written application for the policy within thirty-one (31) days after you terminate. The first premium must also be paid within that time. The issuance of the policy is subject to the following conditions:
  - (1) The policy will, at your option, be on any one of our forms, except for term life insurance. It will be the standard type issued by us for the age and amount applied for;
  - (2) The policy issued will be for an amount not over what you had before you terminated;
  - (3) The premium due for the policy will be at our usual rate. This rate will be based on the amount of insurance, class of risk and your age at date of policy issue; and
  - (4) Proof of good health is not required.
- B. If the insurance ceases due to the termination or amendment of the Policy, an individual Life Insurance Policy can be issued. You must have been insured for at least five (5) years under the Policy and/or the prior carrier. The same rules as in A above will be used, except that the face amount will be the lesser of:
  - (1) The amount of your Group Life benefit under the Policy. This amount will be less any amount you are entitled to under any group life policy issued by us or another insurance company; or
  - (2) \$2,000.
- C. If the insurance reduces, as may be provided in the Policy, an individual Life Insurance Policy can be issued. The same rules as in A above will be used, except that the face amount will not be greater than the amount which ceased due to the reduction.
- D. If you die during the time provided in A above in which you are entitled to apply for an individual policy, we will pay the benefit under the Group Policy that you were entitled to convert. This will be done whether or not you applied for the individual policy.
- E. Any policy issued with respect to A, B or C above will be put in force at the end of the thirty-one (31) day period in which application must be made.

## BENEFICIARY AND FACILITY OF PAYMENT

**BENEFICIARY:** The beneficiary will be as named in writing by you to receive benefits at your death. This beneficiary designation must be on file with us or the Plan Administrator and will be effective on the date you sign it. Any payment made by us before receiving the designation shall fully discharge us to the extent of that payment.

If you name more than one beneficiary to share the benefit, you must state the percentage of the benefit that is to be paid to each beneficiary. Otherwise, they will share the benefit equally.

The beneficiary's consent is not needed if you wish to change the designation. His/her consent is also not needed to make any changes in the Policy.

If the beneficiary dies at the same time as you, or within fifteen (15) days after your death but before we received written proof of your death, payment will be made as if you survived the beneficiary, unless noted otherwise.

If you have not named a beneficiary, or the named beneficiary is not surviving at your death, any benefits due shall be paid to the first of the following classes to survive you:

- (1) your legal spouse;
- (2) your surviving child(ren) (including legally adopted child(ren)), in equal shares;
- (3) your surviving parents, in equal shares;
- (4) your surviving siblings, in equal shares; or, if none of the above,
- (5) your estate.

We will not be liable for any payment we have made in good faith.

**FACILITY OF PAYMENT:** If a beneficiary, in our opinion, cannot give a valid release (and no guardian has been appointed), we may pay the benefit to the person who has custody or is the main support of the beneficiary. Payment to a minor shall not exceed \$1,000.

If you have not named a beneficiary, or the named beneficiary is not surviving at your death, we may pay up to \$250 of the benefit to the person(s) who, in our opinion, have incurred expenses in connection with your last illness, death or burial.

The balance of the benefit, if any, will be held by us, until an individual or representative:

- (1) is validly named; or
- (2) is appointed to receive the proceeds; and
- (3) can give valid release to us.

The benefit will be held with interest at a rate set by us.

We will not be liable for any payment we have made in good faith.

## **SETTLEMENT OPTIONS**

You may elect a different way in which payment of the Amount of Insurance can be made. You must provide a written request to us, for our approval, at our Administrative Office. If the option covers less than the full amount due, we must be advised of what part is to be under an option. Amounts under \$2,000 or option payments of less than \$20.00 each are not eligible.

If no instructions for a settlement option are in effect at the death of an Insured, the beneficiary may make the election, with our consent.

Settlement Options are described in the Policy.

## WAIVER OF PREMIUM IN EVENT OF TOTAL DISABILITY

We will extend the Amount of Insurance during a period of Total Disability for one (1) year if:

- (1) you become totally disabled prior to age 60;
- (2) the Total Disability begins while you are insured;
- (3) the Total Disability begins while the Policy is in force;
- (4) the Total Disability lasts for at least 9 months;
- (5) the premium continues to be paid; and
- (6) we receive proof of Total Disability within one (1) year from the date it began.

After proof of Total Disability is approved by us, neither you or the Policyholder is required to pay premiums. Also, any premiums paid from the start of the Total Disability will be returned.

We will ask you to submit annual proof of continued Total Disability. The Amount of Insurance may then be extended for additional one (1) year periods. You may be required to be examined by a Physician approved by us as part of the proof. We will not require you to be examined more than once a year after the insurance has been extended two (2) full years.

The Amount of Insurance extended will be limited to the amount of basic group life coverage on your life that was in force at the time that Total Disability began excluding any additional benefits. This amount will not increase. This amount will reduce or cease at any time it would reduce or cease if you had not been totally disabled. If you die, we will be liable under this extension only if written proof of death is received by us.

The Amount of Insurance extended for you will cease on the earliest of:

- (1) the date you no longer meet the definition of Total Disability; or
- (2) the date you refuse to be examined; or
- (3) the date you fail to furnish the required proof of Total Disability; or
- (4) the date you become age 70; or
- (5) the date you retire.

You may use the conversion privilege when this extension ceases. Please refer to the Conversion Privilege section for rules. You are not entitled to conversion if you return to work and are again eligible for the insurance under the Policy. If you use the conversion privilege, benefits will not be payable under the Waiver of Premium in Event of Total Disability provision unless the converted policy is surrendered to us.

## CLAIMS PROVISIONS

**NOTICE OF CLAIM:** Written notice must be given to us within 31 days after the Loss occurs, or as soon as reasonably possible. The notice should be sent to us at our Administrative Offices or to our authorized agent. The notice should include your name and the Policy Number.

**CLAIM FORMS:** When we receive written notice of a claim, we will send claim forms to the claimant within 15 days. If we do not, the claimant will satisfy the requirements of written proof of loss by sending us written proof as shown below. The proof must describe the occurrence, extent and nature of the loss.

**PROOF OF LOSS:** For any covered Loss, written proof must be sent to us within 90 days. If it is not reasonably possible to give proof within 90 days, the claim is not affected if the proof is sent as soon as reasonably possible. In any event, proof must be given within 1 year, unless the claimant is legally incapable of doing so.

**PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:** Payment will be made as soon as proper proof is received. All benefits will be paid to you, if living. Any benefits unpaid at the time of death, or due to death, will be paid to the beneficiary.

**PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:** At our own expense, we will have the right to have you examined as reasonably necessary when a claim is pending. We can have an autopsy made unless prohibited by law.

**LEGAL ACTION:** No legal action may be brought against us to recover on the Policy within 60 days after written proof of loss has been given as required by the Policy. No action may be brought after three (3) years (Kansas, five (5) years; South Carolina and Michigan, six (6) years) from the time written proof of loss is required to be submitted.

**EXTENSION OF COVERAGE UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT AND UNIFORMED SERVICES  
EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT (USERRA)**

**Family and Medical Leave of Absence:**

We will continue your coverage and that of any Insured Dependent, if applicable, in accordance with the Policyholder's policies regarding leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended, or any similar state law, as amended, if:

- (1) the premium for you and your Insured Dependents, if applicable, continues to be paid during the leave; and
- (2) the Policyholder has approved your leave in writing and provides a copy of such approval within thirty-one (31) days of our request.

As long as the above requirements are satisfied, we will continue coverage until the later of:

- (1) the end of the leave period required by the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended; or
- (2) the end of the leave period required by any similar state law, as amended.

**Military Services Leave of Absence:**

We will continue your coverage and that of any Insured Dependents, if applicable, in accordance with the Policyholder's policies regarding Military Services Leave of Absence under USERRA if the premium for you and your Insured Dependents, if applicable, continues to be paid during the leave.

As long as the above requirement is satisfied, we will continue coverage until the end of the period required by USERRA.

The Policy, while coverage is being continued under this Military Services Leave of Absence extension, does not cover any loss which occurs while on active duty in the military if such loss is caused by or arises out of such military service, including but not limited to war or any act of war, whether declared or undeclared.

While you are on a Family and Medical Leave of Absence for any reason other than your own illness, injury or disability or Military Services Leave of Absence you will be considered Actively at Work. Any changes such as revisions to coverage due to age, class or salary changes, as applicable, will apply during the leave except that increases in the amount of insurance, whether automatic or subject to election, will not be effective if you are not considered Actively at Work until you have returned to Active Work for one (1) full day.

A leave of absence taken in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 or USERRA will run concurrently with any other applicable continuation of insurance provision in the Policy.

Your coverage and that of any Insured Dependents, if applicable, will cease under this extension on the earliest of:

- (1) the date the Policy terminates; or
- (2) the end of the period for which premium has been paid for you; or
- (3) the date such leave should end in accordance with the Policyholder's policies regarding Family and Medical Leave of Absence and Military Services Leave of Absence in compliance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended and USERRA.

Should the Policyholder choose not to continue your coverage during a Family and Medical Leave of Absence and/or Military Services Leave of Absence, your coverage as well as any dependent coverage, if applicable, will be reinstated.

## GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE ACCELERATED BENEFIT RIDER

**THIS RIDER ADDS AN ACCELERATED BENEFIT PROVISION. RECEIPT OF THIS ACCELERATED BENEFIT WILL REDUCE THE DEATH BENEFIT. THE ACCELERATION OF LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS OFFERED UNDER THIS RIDER IS INTENDED TO QUALIFY FOR FAVORABLE TAX TREATMENT UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986. IF THE ACCELERATION OF LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS IS TAX-QUALIFIED UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, THE BENEFITS WILL NOT BE TAXABLE. TAX LAWS RELATING TO ACCELERATION OF LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS ARE COMPLEX. THE INSURED IS ADVISED TO CONSULT WITH A QUALIFIED TAX ADVISOR ABOUT THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF OBTAINING ACCELERATION OF LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS.**

**RECEIPT OF ACCELERATION OF LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS MAY AFFECT YOUR, YOUR SPOUSE OR YOUR FAMILY'S ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS SUCH AS MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MEDICAID), AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC), SUPPLEMENTARY SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI), AND DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONSULT WITH A QUALIFIED TAX ADVISOR AND WITH SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES CONCERNING HOW RECEIPT OF SUCH A PAYMENT WILL AFFECT YOU, YOUR SPOUSE AND YOUR FAMILY'S ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.**

Attached to Group Policy Number: GL 163862  
Issued to Group Policyholder: Michaels Stores, Inc

This Rider is attached to and made a part of the Policy indicated above. Your Certificate is hereby amended, in consideration of the application for this coverage, by the addition of the following benefit. In this Rider, Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company will be referred to as "we", "us", "our".

**DEFINITIONS:** This section gives the meaning of terms used in this Rider. The Definitions of the Policy and Certificate also apply unless they conflict with Definitions given here.

"Certified" or "Certification" refers to a written statement, made by a Physician on a form provided by us, as to the Insured's Terminal Illness.

"Certificate" means the document, issued to each Insured, which explains the terms of his coverage under the Group Life Insurance Policy.

"Death Benefit" means the insurance amount payable under the Certificate at death of the Insured, subject to all Certificate provisions dealing with changes in the amount of insurance and reductions or termination for age or retirement. It does not include any amount that is only payable in the event of Accidental Death.

"Insured" means the primary Insured and his/her insured Dependents, if any.

"Physician" means a duly licensed practitioner, acting within the scope of his license, who is recognized by the law of the state in which diagnosis is received. The Physician may not be the Insured or a member of his immediate family.

"Policy" means the Group Life Insurance Policy issued to the Group Policyholder under which the Insured is covered.

"Terminally Ill" or "Terminal Illness" refers to an Insured's illness or physical condition that is Certified by a Physician to reasonably be expected to result in death in 24 months or less.

"Written Request" means a request made, in writing, by the Insured to us.

All pronouns include either gender unless the context indicates otherwise.

**DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE:** This benefit is payable to the Insured if, after having been covered under this Rider for at least 60 days, an Insured is Certified as Terminally Ill. In order for this benefit to be paid:

- (1) the Insured must make a Written Request; and
- (2) we must receive from any assignee or irrevocable beneficiary their signed acknowledgment and agreement to payment of this benefit.

We may, at our option, confirm the terminal diagnosis with a second medical exam performed at our own expense. If the second medical exam produces a conflicting diagnosis, we would arrange for a third medical exam to be performed at our

own expense. The initial terminal diagnosis would then be honored only if it is confirmed by the third opinion.

**AMOUNT OF THE ACCELERATED BENEFIT:** The Accelerated Benefit will be an amount equal to 75% of the Death Benefit applicable to the Insured under the Policy on the date of the Certification of Terminal Illness, subject to a maximum benefit of \$500,000. This benefit may be paid as a single lump sum or in installment payments mutually agreed to by us and the Insured. The Accelerated Benefit is payable one time only for any Insured under this Rider.

**EFFECT OF BENEFIT:** If an Insured becomes eligible for, and elects to receive this benefit, it will have the following effects:

- (1) The Death Benefit payable for such Insured will be reduced by an amount equal to the Accelerated Benefit paid to such Insured. The amount of the Accelerated Benefit plus the corresponding Death Benefit will not exceed the amount that would have been paid as the Death Benefit in the absence of this Rider.
- (2) Any amount of insurance that would otherwise be continued under a Waiver of Premium provision will be reduced proportionately, as will the maximum Face Amount available under the Conversion Privilege.

If the Insured elects to receive the Accelerated Benefit, we will send him (and any irrevocable beneficiary) a statement showing the effect that payment of this benefit will have on the death benefit.


**MISSTATEMENT OF AGE OR SEX:** The Accelerated Benefit will be adjusted to reflect the amount of benefit that would have been purchased by the actual premium paid at the correct age and sex.

**TERMINATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S COVERAGE UNDER THIS RIDER:** The coverage of any Insured under this Rider will terminate on the first of the following:

- (1) the date his coverage under the Policy terminates;
- (2) the date of payment of the Accelerated Benefit for his Terminal Illness; or
- (3) the date he attains age 75.

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS:** This Rider takes effect on the Effective Date shown. It will terminate on the date the Group Policy terminates. It is subject to all the terms of the Group Policy not inconsistent herein.

In witness whereof, we have caused this Rider to be signed by our Secretary.

  
Secretary



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT COVERAGE UNDER THE  
TEXAS LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION  
(For insurers declared insolvent or impaired on or after September 1, 2011)**

Texas law establishes a system to protect Texas policyholders if their life or health insurance company fails. The Texas Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association ("the Association") administers this protection system. Only the policyholders of insurance companies that are members of the Association are eligible for this protection which is subject to the terms, limitations, and conditions of the Association law. (The law is found in the *Texas Insurance Code*, Chapter 463.)

**It is possible that the Association may not protect all or part of your policy because of statutory limitations.**

**Eligibility for Protection by the Association**

When a member insurance company is found to be insolvent and placed under an order of liquidation by a court or designated as impaired by the Texas Commissioner of Insurance, the Association provides coverage to policyholders who are:

- Residents of Texas (**regardless of where the policyholder lived when the policy was issued**)
- Residents of other states, **ONLY** if the following conditions are met:
  1. The policyholder has a policy with a company domiciled in Texas;
  2. The policyholder's state of residence has a similar guaranty association; and
  3. The policyholder is *not eligible* for coverage by the guaranty association of the policyholder's state of residence.

**Limits of Protection by the Association**

**Accident, Accident and Health, or Health Insurance:**

- For each individual covered under one or more policies: up to a total of \$500,000 for basic hospital, medical-surgical, and major medical insurance, \$300,000 for disability or long term care insurance, or \$200,000 for other types of health insurance.

**Life Insurance:**

- Net cash surrender value or net cash withdrawal value up to a total of \$100,000 under one or more policies on a single life; or
- Death benefits up to a total of \$300,000 under one or more policies on a single life; or
- Total benefits up to a total of \$5,000,000 to any owner of multiple non-group life policies.

**Individual Annuities:**

- Present value of benefits up to a total of \$250,000 under one or more contracts on any one life.

**Group Annuities:**

- Present value of allocated benefits up to a total of \$250,000 on any one life; or
- Present value of unallocated benefits up to a total of \$5,000,000 for one contractholder regardless of the number of contracts.

**Aggregate Limit:**

- \$300,000 on any one life with the exception of the \$500,000 health insurance limit, the \$5,000,000 multiple owner life insurance limit, and the \$5,000,000 unallocated group annuity limit.

These limits are applied for each insolvent insurance company.

**Insurance companies and agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the Association for the purpose of sales, solicitation, or inducement to purchase any form of insurance. When you are selecting an insurance company, you should not rely on Association coverage. For additional questions on Association protection or general information about an insurance company, please use the following contact information.**

Texas Life and Health Insurance  
Guaranty Association  
515 Congress Avenue, Suite 1875  
Austin, Texas 78701  
800-982-6362 or [www.txlifega.org](http://www.txlifega.org)

Texas Department of Insurance  
P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, Texas 78714-9104  
800-252-3439 or [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

## **SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**



The following section entitled Summary Plan Description was prepared by Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company at the request of and on behalf of the Plan Sponsor. Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or sufficiency of the information in this section.

### **SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**

The following information and the description of benefits provided in this booklet constitute the Summary Plan Description.

PLAN NAME:	Group Life Insurance
PLAN SPONSOR:	Michaels Stores, Inc 3939 John Carpenter Freeway Irving, TX 75063 (469) 217-7467
SPONSOR'S EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	75-1943604
PLAN NUMBER:	501
TYPE OF PLAN:	Death Benefit Plan
PLAN BENEFITS:	Fully Insured - Group Life Insurance Benefits
TYPE OF ADMINISTRATION:	The plan is administered in accordance with the terms of the Group Policy issued by the Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company, 1700 Market Street, Suite 1200, Philadelphia, PA 19103-3938.
PLAN ADMINISTRATOR:	The Plan Sponsor named above.
AGENT FOR SERVICE OF LEGAL PROCESS:	The Plan Sponsor named above.
PLAN YEAR:	The plan's fiscal records are kept on a plan year basis beginning July 1st.
PLAN COSTS:	The cost of the benefits provided under the plan are paid for by the employer.
QUALIFIED MEDICAL CHILD SUPPORT ORDER (QMCSO) DETERMINATIONS:	A plan participant or beneficiary can obtain, without charge, a copy of the Plan's procedures governing Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) determinations from the Plan Administrator named above.
AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION:	The Plan Sponsor reserves the right, at any time, to amend or terminate the Plan or amend or eliminate benefits under the Plan for any reason.

**CLAIM PROCEDURES FOR CLAIMS FILED WITH  
RELIANCE STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY  
ON OR AFTER APRIL 1, 2018**

**CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS**

Claims may be submitted by mailing the completed form along with any requested information to:

Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company  
Claims Department  
P.O. Box 8330  
Philadelphia, PA 19101-8330

Claim forms are available from your benefits representative or may be requested by writing to the above address or by calling 1-800-644-1103.

In the event of any *Adverse Benefit Determination* (defined below), the claimant (or their authorized representative) may appeal that *Adverse Benefit Determination* in accordance with the following procedures. This opportunity to appeal exists without regard to the applicability of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.*

**TIMING OF NOTIFICATION OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION**

Non-Disability Benefit Claims

If a non-disability claim is wholly or partially denied, the claimant shall be notified of the Adverse Benefit Determination within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 90 days after our receipt of the claim, unless it is determined that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the claim. If it is determined that an extension of time for processing is required, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the claimant prior to the termination of the initial 90-day period. In no event shall such extension exceed a period of 90 days from the end of such initial period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which the benefit determination is expected to be rendered.

Calculating time periods. The period of time within which a benefit determination is required to be made shall begin at the time a claim is filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make a benefit determination accompanies the filing.

Disability Benefit Claims

In the case of a claim for disability benefits, the claimant shall be notified of the Adverse Benefit Determination within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 45 days after our receipt of the claim. This period may be extended for up to 30 days, provided that it is determined that such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond our control and that notification is provided to the claimant, prior to the expiration of the initial 45-day period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which a decision is expected to be rendered. If, prior to the end of the first 30-day extension period, it is determined that, due to matters beyond our control, a decision cannot be rendered within that extension period, the period for making the determination may be extended for up to an additional 30 days, provided that the claimant is notified, prior to the expiration of the first 30-day extension period, of the circumstances requiring the extension and the date by which a decision is expected to be rendered. In the case of any such extension, the notice of extension shall specifically explain the standards on which entitlement to a benefit is based, the unresolved issues that prevent a decision on the claim, and the additional information needed to resolve those issues, and the claimant shall be afforded at least 45 days within which to provide the specified information.

Calculating time periods. The period of time within which a benefit determination is required to be made shall begin at the time a claim is filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make a benefit determination accompanies the filing. In the event that a period of time is extended due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide a claim, the period for making the benefit determination shall be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to the claimant until the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

## **MANNER AND CONTENT OF NOTIFICATION OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION**

### Non-Disability Benefit Claims

A Claimant shall be provided with written notification of any Adverse Benefit Determination. The notification shall set forth, in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant, the following:

1. The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination;
2. Reference to the specific plan/policy provisions on which the determination is based;
3. A description of any additional material or information necessary for the claimant to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary; and
4. A description of the review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended ("ERISA") (where applicable), following an Adverse Benefit Determination on Review.

### Disability Benefit Claims

A claimant shall be provided with written notification of any Adverse Benefit Determination. The notification shall be set forth, in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant, the following:

1. The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination;
2. Reference to the specific plan/policy provisions on which the determination is based;
3. A description of any additional material or information necessary for the claimant to perfect the claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary;
4. A description of the review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement of the claimant's right to bring a civil action under section 502(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as amended ("ERISA") (where applicable), following an Adverse Benefit Determination on Review; and
5. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following:
  - a) The views presented by the claimant to the plan of health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant;
  - b) The views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the plan in connection with a claimant's Adverse Benefit Determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination; and
  - c) A disability determination regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the plan made by the Social Security Administration;
6. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the plan relied upon in making the adverse determination, or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the plan do not exist;
7. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant (defined below) to a claim for benefits; and
8. The notification shall be provided in a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate (defined below) manner.

## **APPEALS OF ADVERSE BENEFIT DETERMINATIONS**

Appeals of Adverse Benefit Determinations may be submitted in accordance with the following procedures to:

Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company  
Quality Review Unit  
P.O. Box 8330  
Philadelphia, PA 19101-8330

### Non-Disability Benefit Claims

1. Claimants (or their authorized representatives) must appeal within 60 days following their receipt of a notification of an Adverse Benefit Determination, and only one appeal is allowed;
2. Claimants shall be provided with the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records, and/or other information relating to the claim for benefits in conjunction with their timely appeal;
3. Claimants shall be provided, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the claimant's claim for benefits;
4. The review on (timely) appeal shall take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination;
5. No deference to the initial Adverse Benefit Determination shall be afforded upon appeal;

6. The appeal shall be conducted by an individual who is neither the individual who made the (underlying) Adverse Benefit Determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of such individual; and
7. Any medical or vocational expert(s) whose advice was obtained in connection with a claimant's Adverse Benefit Determination shall be identified, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination.

#### Disability Benefit Claims

1. Claimants (or their authorized representatives) must appeal within 180 days following their receipt of a notification of an Adverse Benefit Determination, and only one appeal is allowed;
2. Claimants shall be provided with the opportunity to submit written comments, documents, records, and/or other information relating to the claim for benefits in conjunction with their timely appeal;
3. Claimants shall be provided, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information Relevant (defined below) to the claimant's claim for benefits;
4. The review on (timely) appeal shall take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination;
5. No deference to the initial Adverse Benefit Determination shall be afforded upon appeal;
6. The appeal shall be conducted by an individual who is neither the individual who made the (underlying) Adverse Benefit Determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of such individual;
7. Any medical or vocational expert(s) whose advice was obtained in connection with a claimant's Adverse Benefit Determination shall be identified, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
8. In deciding the appeal of any Adverse Benefit Determination that is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, the individual conducting the appeal shall consult with a health care professional:
  - (a) who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment; and
  - (b) who is neither an individual who was consulted in connection with the Adverse Benefit Determination that is the subject of the appeal; nor the subordinate of any such individual.

#### **TIMING OF NOTIFICATION OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION ON REVIEW**

##### Non-Disability Benefit Claims

The claimant (or their authorized representative) shall be notified of the benefit determination on review within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 60 days after receipt of the claimant's timely request for review, unless it is determined that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the appeal. If it is determined that an extension of time for processing is required, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the claimant prior to the termination of the initial 60-day period. In no event shall such extension exceed a period of 60 days from the end of the initial period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which the determination on review is expected to be rendered.

Calculating time periods. The period of time within which a benefit determination on review is required to be made shall begin at the time an appeal is timely filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make a benefit determination on review accompanies the filing. In the event that a period of time is extended as above due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide a claim, the period for making the benefit determination on review shall be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to the claimant until the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

##### Disability Benefit Claims

The claimant (or their authorized representative) shall be notified of the benefit determination on review within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 45 days after receipt of the claimant's timely request for review, unless it is determined that special circumstances require an extension of time for processing the appeal. If it is determined that an extension of time for processing is required, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the claimant prior to the termination of the initial 45-day period. In no event shall such extension exceed a period of 45 days from the end of the initial period. The extension notice shall indicate the special circumstances requiring an extension of time and the date by which the determination on review is expected to be rendered.

Calculating time periods. The period of time within which a benefit determination on review is required to be made shall begin at the time an appeal is timely filed, without regard to whether all the information necessary to make a benefit determination on review accompanies the filing. In the event that a period of time is extended as above due to a claimant's failure to submit information necessary to decide a claim, the period for making the benefit determination on

review shall be tolled from the date on which the notification of the extension is sent to the claimant until the date on which the claimant responds to the request for additional information.

## **MANNER AND CONTENT OF NOTIFICATION OF BENEFIT DETERMINATION ON REVIEW**

### Non-Disability Benefit Claims

A claimant shall be provided with written notification of the benefit determination on review. In the case of an Adverse Benefit Determination on Review, the notification shall set forth, in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant, the following:

1. The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination;
2. Reference to the specific plan/policy provisions on which the determination is based;
3. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information Relevant (defined below) to the claimant's claim for benefits; and
4. A statement of the claimant's right to bring an action under section 502(a) of ERISA (where applicable).

### Disability Benefit Claims

A claimant must be provided with written notification of the determination on review. In the case of Adverse Benefit Determination on Review, the notification shall set forth, in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant, the following:

1. The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination;
2. Reference to the specific plan/policy provisions on which the determination is based;
3. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information Relevant (defined below) to the claimant's claim for benefits;
4. A statement of the claimant's right to bring an action under section 502(a) of ERISA (where applicable) as well as a description of any applicable contractual limitations period that applies to the claimant's right to bring such an action, including the calendar date on which the contractual limitations period expires for the claim;
5. A discussion of the decision, including an explanation of the basis for disagreeing with or not following:
  - a) The views presented by the claimant to the plan of health care professionals treating the claimant and vocational professionals who evaluated the claimant;
  - b) The views of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the plan in connection with a claimant's Adverse Benefit Determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination; and
  - c) A disability determination regarding the claimant presented by the claimant to the plan made by the Social Security Administration;
6. Either the specific internal rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the plan relied upon in making the adverse determination, or, alternatively, a statement that such rules, guidelines, protocols, standards or other similar criteria of the plan do not exist;
7. A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information Relevant (defined below) to a claim for benefits; and
8. The notification shall be provided in a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate (defined below) manner.

## **REQUESTS CONCERNING ALLEGED VIOLATION OF THESE PROCEDURES**

In the event that a claimant requests a written explanation of any alleged violation of these procedures, such explanation should be provided within 10 days, including a specific description of any basis for asserting that any violation should not cause any administrative remedies available under the plan to be exhausted (where applicable).

## **DEFINITIONS**

The term "Adverse Benefit Determination" means any of the following: a denial, reduction, or termination of, or a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for, a benefit, including any such denial, reduction, termination, or failure to provide or make payment that is based on a determination of a participant's or beneficiary's eligibility to participate in a plan.



The term "Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Manner" means:

- Oral language services (such as telephone customer assistance hotline) that includes answering questions in any Applicable Non-English Language and providing assistance with filing claims and appeals in any Applicable Non-English Language must be provided;
- A notice in any Applicable Non-English Language must be provided upon request; and
- A statement prominently displayed in any Applicable Non-English Language clearly indicating how to access the language services provided must be included in the English versions of all notices.

The term "Applicable Non-English Language" means:

With respect to an address in any United States county to which a notice is sent, a non-English language is an Applicable Non-English Language if ten percent or more of the population residing in the county is literate only in the same non-English language as determined in guidance published by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The term "us" or "our" refers to Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company.

The term "Relevant" means:

A document, record, or other information shall be considered relevant to a claimant's claim if such document, record or other information:

- Was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- Was submitted, considered, or generated in the course of making the benefit determination, without regard to whether such document, record or other information was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- Demonstrates compliance with administrative processes and safeguards designed to ensure and to verify that benefit claim determinations are made in accordance with governing plan documents and that, where appropriate, the plan provisions have been applied consistently with respect to similarly situated claimants; or
- In the case of a plan providing disability benefits, constitutes a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the plan concerning the denied benefit of the claimant's diagnosis, without regard to whether such advice or statement was relied upon in making the benefit determination.

The term "Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company" means Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company and/or its authorized claim administrators.

## ERISA STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

As a participant in the Group Insurance Plan, you may be entitled to certain rights and protections in the event that the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) applies. 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 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 benefits plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interests of you and other Plan Participants and Beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

### **Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a 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 the Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal Court. If it should happen that Plan Fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest Office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.