

# CenturyLink Retiree Life Insurance Plan

Summary Plan Description for  
Global Crossing Retirees  
(Retirees insured prior to January 1, 2016)

CenturyLink, Inc.  
Effective January 1, 2020

# CenturyLink Retiree Life Insurance Plan Global Crossing Retirees

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>Reserved Rights .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>How to Use this Document .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>What is an SPD? .....</i>	<i>5</i>
<b>LIFE INSURANCE PLANS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>COMMON FEATURES OF THE LIFE PLANS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<i>Eligibility .....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Dependent Eligibility .....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Your Beneficiary .....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>When Coverage Begins .....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>What Coverage Costs .....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>How To File a Claim .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Recovery of Payments .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Benefits Assignment .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Release of Medical or Confidential Information .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>When Coverage Ends .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Converting to Individual Insurance .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Interpretation of the Plans .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>RETIREE BASIC LIFE INSURANCE .....</b>	<b>111</b>
<i>Amount of Coverage .....</i>	<i>111</i>
<i>Cost of Coverage .....</i>	<i>111</i>
<i>How the Plan Pays Benefits .....</i>	<i>111</i>
<b>RETIREE SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE INSURANCE .....</b>	<b>122</b>
<i>Amount of Coverage .....</i>	<i>122</i>
<i>Cost of Coverage .....</i>	<i>122</i>
<i>How the Plan Pays Benefits .....</i>	<i>122</i>
<b>NOTICE AND PROOF OF CLAIM .....</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>CLAIMS APPEAL PROCEDURE .....</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLANS .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<i>Statement of ERISA Rights .....</i>	<i>155</i>
<i>Plan Amendments .....</i>	<i>166</i>
<i>Interpretation of the Plan .....</i>	<i>166</i>
<i>Plan Name and Type .....</i>	<i>166</i>
<i>Plan Financing and Administration .....</i>	<i>166</i>
<i>Plan Sponsor .....</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>Plan Administrator and Agent for Service of Legal Process .....</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>Limitation on Civil Actions .....</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>Clerical Error .....</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>Records And Information and Your Obligation to Furnish Information .....</i>	<i>188</i>
<i>Circumstances That May Affect Your Plan Benefits .....</i>	<i>188</i>
<i>Consequences of Falsification or Misrepresentation .....</i>	<i>198</i>
<b>GLOSSARY .....</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>APPENDIX .....</b>	<b>20</b>

## INTRODUCTION

CenturyLink, Inc. (hereinafter “CenturyLink” or “Company”) is pleased to provide you with this Summary Plan Description (hereinafter “Benefit Summary” or “SPD”). This SPD presents an overview of the general plan provisions, rights and responsibilities under the CenturyLink Retiree Life Insurance Plan (the “Life Plan”). Collectively, this SPD might refer to the plan as “Retiree Life”, “Life Insurance Plan”, “Life Insurance”, or “Plan” and must be read in conjunction with the *General Information SPD*.

The effective date of this updated SPD is January 1, 2020. This SPD summarizes Retiree Life Insurance if you were an employee of CenturyTel contingent on your date you retired. See Eligibility Section of this SPD for further information on if you were eligible for Basic Retiree Life Insurance. This SPD, together with other plan documents (such as the Plan Document, General Information SPD, Summary of Material Modifications (SMM), and including materials you receive at Annual Enrollment) briefly describe your Benefits as well as rights and responsibilities under the Plan. This SPD is intended to accurately reflect the provisions of the Group Retiree Life insurance policy that underwrite the CenturyLink Retiree Life Insurance Plan.

Since this is only a summary of the policy, it does not cover all details found in the group policy. In the event of any discrepancy between this SPD and the official Plan Document, the group insurance policy shall govern.

January 1, 2019 is the date changes were most recently made to the coverage available under the Plan.

Questions regarding your Retiree Life insurance benefits should be directed to the following:

CenturyLink Service Center at 866-935-5011 or 800-729-7526

However, you may also contact the Plan Administrator, the CenturyLink Employee Benefits Committee (EBC) directly. You may contact the EBC at:

CenturyLink, Inc.  
Human Resources  
214 East 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

## Reserved Rights

CenturyLink reserves the right to amend, change or terminate the Plan and any of the Benefits provided under the Plan – with respect to all classes of covered or “eligible” persons, retired or otherwise – without prior notice to or consultation with any covered or “eligible” person, subject only to applicable law and if applicable, collective bargaining agreements or other written applicable agreements.

The Plan Administrator has the right and discretion to determine all matters of fact or interpretation relative to the administration of the Plans — including questions of eligibility, interpretations of the Plan’s provisions and any other matter. The decisions of the Plan Administrator and any other person or group to whom such discretion has been delegated, including the Claims Administrator (the Insurer), shall be conclusive and binding on all persons. More information about the Plan Administrator and the Claims Administrator can be found in the Appendix of this SPD.

No Company Employee or vendors hired by CenturyLink can be responsible for advising you on the tax effects of your participation in the Plan as described in this SPD. Because tax laws are constantly changing, you should consult a tax advisor if you have questions about how participation in any Company plans will affect your personal tax situation.

## How to Use this Document

This SPD is provided to explain how the Plans work. It describes your Benefits and rights as well as your obligations under the Plan. It is important for you to understand that because this SPD is only a summary, it cannot cover all of the details of the Plans or how the rules will apply to every person in every situation. All of the specific rules governing the Plan are contained in the official Plan Document and underlying group insurance policy. You and your beneficiaries may examine the Plan Document and insurance policy, other documents relating to the Plan during regular business hours or by appointment at a mutually convenient time in the office of the Plan Administrator. For additional information, refer to the *Statement of ERISA Rights*.

Capitalized terms are defined in the *Glossary* section and throughout this SPD. All uses of "we," "us," and "our" in this document, are references to the Claims Administrator or CenturyLink. References to "you" and "your" are references to people who are Covered Persons as the term is defined in the *Glossary*.

You are encouraged to read and keep all SPDs and any attachments (summary of material modifications (“SMMs”), amendments, and addendums) for future reference.

## What is an SPD?

This SPD is designed to provide you with a general description, in non-technical language, of the Life insurance benefits and coverages available under the Plan, without describing all the details set forth in the Plan Document. Other important details can be found in the Plan Document. This SPD is not the Plan Document. The legal rights and obligations of any person having any interest in the Plan are determined solely by the provisions of the Plan Document. If any of the terms of the Plan Document are in conflict with the contents of the SPD, the Plan Document and insurance policy will always govern. The Plan Document and this SPD supersede any and all prior documents you may have been provided regarding your benefits under the Plan.

# LIFE INSURANCE PLANS

The CenturyLink Life Plans provide a wide range of coverage in the event of death.

- The **Basic Life Insurance Benefit** under the Life Plan pays benefits in the form of a lump sum payment to your beneficiary(ies) if you die while covered.
- The **Supplemental Life Insurance Benefit** allowed you to buy additional coverage under the Life Plan for yourself and Your Dependents prior to your retirement.

For assistance in understanding terminology associated with the administration of your benefit plans, please refer to the *Glossary*.

## COMMON FEATURES OF THE LIFE PLANS

This section provides an overview and common features of the CenturyLink Life Plans. Specific and distinct features to the Life Plans are listed below in separate sections.

### *Eligibility*

You are eligible for Retiree Basic and Supplemental Life coverage described in this summary contingent on the date you retired:

- If you retired prior to January 1, 2016;
- You are a citizen or legal resident of the United States, its territories and protectorates.

### *Dependent Eligibility*

Your Dependents are eligible for Supplemental Life coverage described in this summary if they meet the definition of an eligible dependent, you and your Dependents were enrolled in the Supplemental Life Plan prior to retirement and met the eligibility requirements stated above:

- Your Spouse means:
  - Is not legally separated or divorced from You; and
  - Is not in active full-time military service;
  - Is Your partner in a civil union.
- Your domestic partner provided You:
  - Have executed a domestic partner affidavit satisfactory to CenturyLink and the insurer, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for the purposes of the policy; or
  - Have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.
- Your child(ren), up to the end of the month in which they attain age 26. Child(ren) include:
  - Your unmarried children, stepchildren, legally adopted children, or any other children related to You by blood or marriage or civil union or domestic partnership who:
    - Live with You in a regular parent-child relationship; and/or
    - You claimed as a dependent on Your last filed federal income tax return; provided such children are primarily dependent upon You for financial support and maintenance and are:
      - At least 15 days old but not yet age 26; or
      - Age 26 or older and disabled. Such children must have become disabled before attaining age 26. You must submit proof, satisfactory to CenturyLink and the insurer, of such disability.
- You may cover any or all of your eligible dependents according to the rules of each plan; **however**, no one may be a dependent of more than one employee under the benefit plans.

Your Dependent must be a citizen or legal resident of the United States of America, its territories and protectorates.

## ***Your Beneficiary***

Your beneficiary is the person you choose to receive survivor benefits in the event of your death. You may name any person(s), your estate, almost any organization or a trust as the beneficiary(ies) under your CenturyLink Life Insurance Plan (the "Life Plan"). You may name one beneficiary or divide the benefit among multiple beneficiaries. If you name multiple beneficiaries, you must specify the percentage each beneficiary will receive. You also may name different beneficiary(ies) for each Plan.

It is important to specify your beneficiary(ies) designation clearly when you enroll. In the event that a beneficiary is named for one coverage but not the others, **the named beneficiary will apply to all coverages.**

If no beneficiary is alive on the date of your death or you have not elected a beneficiary, the benefit will be paid as follows:

1. to your spouse or domestic partner, if living; or
2. if there is no surviving spouse or domestic partner, to your surviving children in equal shares; or
3. if there is no surviving spouse or domestic partner or children, to your surviving parents in equal shares; or
4. if there is no surviving spouse or domestic partner, children or parents, to your surviving brothers and sisters in equal shares; or
5. if there is no surviving spouse or domestic partner, children, parents, brothers or sisters, to your surviving grandparents in equal shares;
6. if none of the above, to your estate.

Please confirm that you have designated beneficiaries for all of your life insurance plans by going to [www.centurylinkhealthandlife.com](http://www.centurylinkhealthandlife.com) or calling the **CenturyLink Service Center at 866-935-5011 or 800-729-7526. CenturyLink Service Center is the recordkeeper of beneficiary designations.** If there is no beneficiary designation on file upon your death, any eligible amount will be payable according to the plan rules and may not be whom you intended to receive the benefit. In addition, naming a beneficiary and having all the information on file may expedite the claim processing.

**Important Note About Naming Minor Children:** If you name your minor child(ren) as beneficiary(ies), please be advised that the Plan will be unable to pay benefits to them until the earlier of:

1. The date your child(ren) reach the age of majority (usually age 18 or 21), depending on applicable state); or
2. The date a legal guardian of the minors' estate has been appointed by a court. This can be a costly process, and state laws may limit who may be named as guardian of an estate.

## ***When Coverage Begins***

Coverage for Retiree Basic Life insurance coverage, (if you were retired prior to January 1, 2016), normally begins coincident with the first of the month following your retirement.

Coverage for Retiree Supplemental Life insurance coverage, (if you were enrolled prior to your retirement for Supplemental Life), normally begins coincident with the first of the month following your retirement.

## ***What Coverage Costs***

The CenturyLink Retiree Basic Life is an insured plan and the cost of coverage is based on premium charged by the insurance company, which is retiree paid.



The CenturyLink Retiree Supplemental Life Benefit Plan for You and Your Dependents is an insured plan based on your age (Retiree's and for Spouses, based on their age) and the amount of coverage you elected prior to your retirement for Retiree Supplemental Life, which is based on the Retiree Supplemental Life rates charged by the insurance carrier and not the Active Employee or Dependent Spouse Supplemental Life rates you previously paid as an Active Employee. This plan is entirely paid by the retiree.

Your Retiree and Dependent Supplemental Life premiums will increase the first of the month following your birthday or Your Dependent Spouse's birthday when the age change causes you or Your Dependent Spouse to move to a higher set of age band rates.

The CenturyLink Service Center can provide you with information about the costs of your Retiree and Dependent Supplemental Life coverage when you retire.

## ***How To File a Claim***

A claim must be filed to receive benefits from the CenturyLink Life insurance plans.

### **Claims for Retiree Basic or Supplemental Life Insurance Benefits**

When there has been the death of an insured person, notify the CenturyLink Service Center by calling 86-935-5011 or 800-729-7526. For the purpose of this section, the CenturyLink Service Center is the party designated by the Policyholder to maintain certain records needed to administer the insurance provided under the Life Plans. This notice should be given to the CenturyLink Service Center as soon as is reasonably possible after the death. The CenturyLink Service Center will notify MetLife and a claim form will be sent to the beneficiary or beneficiaries of record. The beneficiary or beneficiaries should complete the claim form and send it and Proof of the death to MetLife as instructed on the claim form. When MetLife receives the claim form and Proof, MetLife will review the claim and, if approved, they will pay benefits subject to the terms and provisions of the Life Plan. The benefit amount may be reduced by the amount of any due and unpaid contributions to premium outstanding at the time payment is made. It may be further reduced for any life amounts paid to You under the Accelerated Benefit Option as a result of a terminal illness.

## ***Recovery of Payments***

If your benefit is overpaid for any reason, the Plans have the right to recover the excess amount from the person or organization receiving benefits. The Plans reserve the right to recover any amounts due under these provisions by any means and your participation in the Plans means that you understand this right of recovery.

## ***Benefits Assignment***

The right to receive benefits under the Retiree Basic Life and Supplemental Life insurance plans is assignable to any other party.

## ***Release of Medical or Confidential Information***

By accepting benefits from the life insurance Plans, you authorize the Plan Administrator or insurance carrier to examine any medical records needed to process claims or appeals.

Information will be kept confidential whenever possible. Under certain circumstances this information may be disclosed to other parties with your or your beneficiary's authorization or as required by state or federal law. Please keep in mind that it is very important for you to follow the Plans' procedures, as summarized in this SPD, in order to obtain Plan Benefits and to help keep your personal confidential information private and protected. For example, contacting someone at the Company other than the Claims Administrator or Plan

Administrator (or their duly authorized delegates) in order to try to get a Benefit claim issue resolved is not following the Plan's procedures. If you do not follow the Plan's procedures for claiming a Benefit or resolving an issue involving Plan Benefits, there is no guarantee that the Plan Benefits for which you may be eligible will be paid to you on a timely basis, or paid at all, and there can be no guarantee that your personal confidential information will remain private and protected.

## ***When Coverage Ends***

Generally, your coverage under the life insurance plans cease when you are no longer an eligible participant, CenturyLink no longer offers Retiree Basic and Supplemental Life, or you are rehired as a full-time active employee.

## ***Converting to Individual Insurance***

If for any reason your Retiree Basic or Supplemental (including Dependent Supplemental) Life coverage ends, You may request the Life Insurance carrier to convert your coverage to an individual policy. For You to convert, MetLife must receive a completed conversion application form from You within 31 days after the date Your Life Insurance ends or is reduced.

The individual converted life insurance policy will be issued in a policy format customarily issued by the insurance carrier at the time and rate for your class of risk and age. You must pay the full cost. The cost, terms and benefits of conversion policies differ substantially from those of the CenturyLink Life Plans.

If You die within 31 days of the date Portability Eligible Life Insurance ends and an application to Port is not received by MetLife during such period, MetLife will determine whether Your life insurance qualifies for payment. This determination will be made in accordance with MetLife's Life Insurance **Conversion** Option for You.

## ***Interpretation of the Plans***

The CenturyLink Employee Benefits Committee, the Plan Administrator, has the discretion and authority to interpret, resolve ambiguities, control and manage the operation and administration of the Plans. The Plan Administrator has delegated to third party claims administrators, the insurance carrier its discretionary authority to make all final determinations regarding claims for benefits under the Plans. This discretionary authority includes, but is not limited to, the determination of eligibility for benefits, based upon enrollment information provided by the Company, and the amount of any benefits due, and to construe interpret and resolve ambiguities relative to the terms of the Plans.

Any decision made by the third party claims administrator (the insurance carrier) in the exercise of this delegated discretion and authority, including review of denials of benefit, is conclusive and binding on all parties. Any court reviewing determinations by the third party claims administrator (the insurance carrier) shall uphold such determination unless the claimant proves the determinations are arbitrary and capricious

# RETIREE BASIC LIFE INSURANCE

## ***Amount of Coverage***

Your Retiree Basic Life is the amount shown on your prior certificate of coverage with Hartford.

## ***Cost of Coverage***

The cost of Retiree Basic Life coverage for eligible retirees is currently paid by You.

## ***How the Plan Pays Benefits***

Retiree Basic Life Insurance is payable to your beneficiaries regardless of the cause of death. Please see the section of Common Features for further information relative to beneficiary designation.

Benefits paid by the Retiree Basic Life Insurance Plan are normally made in a lump sum but other methods of payment can be arranged with the insurance carrier if requested. The request must be on a form approved by the insurance carrier.

# RETIREE SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE INSURANCE

## ***Amount of Coverage***

Your Retiree Supplemental Life is the amount shown on your prior certificate of coverage with Hartford.

Your Dependents' Supplemental Life is the amount shown on your prior certificate of coverage with Hartford.

Contact the CenturyLink Service Center regarding coverage amount.

## ***Cost of Coverage***

The Retiree Supplemental and Dependents' Supplemental Life Plan is an insured plan, which means that the cost of coverage is based on the premium charged by the insurance carrier. You pay the cost of coverage. The cost of your coverage is based on your age (on your spouse's age for Dependent Supplemental Life) and the amount of life insurance you selected.

The CenturyLink Service Center can provide you with a current schedule of costs for Retiree Supplemental Life Insurance.

## ***How the Plan Pays Benefits***

Retiree Supplemental Life Insurance is payable to your beneficiaries regardless of the cause of death. Dependent Supplemental Life insurance is payable to You. Please see the section of Common Features for further information relative to beneficiary designation.

Benefits paid by the Retiree and Dependent Supplemental Life Insurance Plan are normally made in a lump sum but other methods of payment can be arranged with the insurance carrier if requested. The request must be on a form approved by the insurance carrier.

## **NOTICE AND PROOF OF CLAIM**

A claim must be filed in order to receive benefits from the Retiree Basic and Supplemental Life Plan. Please notify the CenturyLink Service Center by calling 866-935-5011 or 800-729-7526.

For the purpose of this section, the CenturyLink Service Center is the party designated by the Policyholder to maintain certain records needed to administer the insurance provided under the Life Plans. This notice should be given to the CenturyLink Service Center as soon as is reasonably possible after the death. The CenturyLink Service Center will notify MetLife and a Life Insurance Claim Packet will be mailed to Your beneficiary or beneficiaries of record. It's imperative that you confirm that the Beneficiary on record aligns with your request. The beneficiary or beneficiaries should complete the claim form and send it and Proof of the death to MetLife as instructed on the claim form. A notice of claim should be filed with the CenturyLink Service Center as soon as reasonably possible but no later than 30 days after the date of death. Additionally, proof of claim must then be provided no later than 120 days after the date of death. When MetLife receives the claim form and Proof, MetLife will review the claim and, if approved, they will pay benefits subject to the terms and provisions of the Life Plan. The benefit amount may be reduced by the amount of any due and unpaid contributions to premium outstanding at the time payments made.

If a claim is denied, you or your beneficiary has certain rights of appeal, which are described below in the "Claims Appeal Procedure" section.

# CLAIMS APPEAL PROCEDURE

## Appealing the Initial Determination For Life Insurance

In the event a claim has been denied in whole or in part, you or, if applicable, your beneficiary can request a review of your claim by MetLife. This request for review should be sent in writing to Group Insurance Claims Review at the address of MetLife's office which processed the claim within 60 days after you or, if applicable, your beneficiary received notice of denial of the claim. MetLife has multiple Claims offices. It's imperative you appeal to the address of the office which processed the claim. When requesting a review, please state the reason you or, if applicable, your beneficiary believe the claim was improperly denied and submit in writing any written comments, documents, records or other information you or, if applicable, your beneficiary deem appropriate. Upon your written request, MetLife will provide you free of charge with copies of relevant documents, records and other information.

MetLife will re-evaluate all the information, will conduct a full and fair review of the claim, and you or, if applicable, your beneficiary will be notified of the decision. Such notification will be provided within a reasonable period not to exceed 60 days from the date we received your request for review, unless MetLife notifies you within that period that there are special circumstances requiring an extension of time of up to 60 additional days.

If MetLife denies the claim on appeal, MetLife will send you a final written decision that states the reason(s) why the claim you appealed is being denied, references any specific Plan provision(s) on which the denial is based, any voluntary appeal procedures offered by the Plan, and a statement of your right to bring a civil action if your claim is denied after an appeal. The policy under which you filed a claim has a provision, which states, in part, that no lawsuit or legal action shall be brought to recover on the policy after the expiration of three years from the time proof of loss is required.

Upon written request, MetLife will provide you free of charge with copies of documents, records and other information relevant to your claim.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLANS

The Life Insurance Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

## ***Statement of ERISA Rights***

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) affords you with certain legal protection under the plans the Company provides.

As a participant in the Life Insurance Plan component of the CenturyLink Welfare Benefits Plan No. 513, certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

- Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator office and other specified locations, such as work sites, all documents governing the plan including insurance contracts, 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 copies.
- Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial reports. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this annual summary report.

In addition to creating rights for plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of employee benefit plans. The people who operate your plans, called "fiduciaries," have a duty to do so prudently and in the sole interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, 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.

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 materials 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 Plan Administrator.

If your claim for benefits 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 plans' 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.

If you have any questions about the Plan(s), 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, Pension and Welfare Benefits 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 publication's hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

## ***Plan Amendments***

The Company reserves the right at any time, to terminate, modify or amend, in whole or in part, any or all of the provisions of the plans.

## ***Interpretation of the Plan***

The Plan Administrator has authority to control and manage the operation and administration of the plans. However, the plan administrator has delegated to the group sponsored life insurance carrier its entire discretionary authority to make all final determinations regarding claims for benefits under the benefit plan insured by this policy. This discretionary authority includes, but is not limited to, the determination of eligibility for benefits, based upon enrollment information provided by the policyholder, and the amount of any benefits due, and to construe the terms of this policy.

Any decision made by the group sponsored life insurance carrier in the exercise of this authority, including review of denials of benefit, is conclusive and binding on all parties. Any court reviewing the group sponsored life insurance carrier determinations shall uphold such determination unless the claimant proves the determinations are arbitrary and capricious.

## ***Plan Name and Type***

The name of the Plan in which this SPD summarizes the benefits is outlined below. This Plan is a component of the CenturyLink Group Welfare Benefits Plan 513, which is an umbrella Section 125 cafeteria plan. Components of this Plan summarized here include the following:

The CenturyLink Life Insurance Plan which offers the following benefits and coverage:

- Retiree Basic Life
- Retiree Supplemental Life
- Dependent Supplemental Life

## ***Plan Financing and Administration***

- Plan Year: January 1 through December 31.
- Plan Financing: The Plan is financed on a fully insured basis.

Administration Type: The Life Plan is administered by third party claims administrator – insurance carrier operating under group policy.



## ***Plan Sponsor***

CenturyLink, Inc.  
c/o Human Resources  
214 East 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

Employer Identification Number: 72-0651161

## ***Plan Administrator and Agent for Service of Legal Process***

The CenturyLink Employee Benefits Committee  
c/o CenturyLink, Inc.,  
Human Resources  
214 East 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98663

## ***Limitation on Civil Actions***

You cannot bring any legal proceeding or action against the Plan, the Plan Administrator, claims administrator or the Company unless you first complete all the steps in the claims and appeal process described in this SPD.

After completing that process, you can bring any legal proceedings or action against the Plan or us or the Claims Administrator within 12 months or one (1) year of the date the Claims Administrator notified you of the final decision on your appeal. No person has the right to file a civil action, proceeding or lawsuit against the Plan or any person acting with respect to the Plan, including, but not limited to, the Company, any Participating Company, the CenturyLink Employee Benefits Committee or any other fiduciary, or any third party service provider, after the expiration of three years from the time proof of loss is required.

## ***Clerical Error***

If a clerical error or other mistake occurs, however occurring, that error does not create a right to Benefits. Clerical errors include, but are not limited to, providing misinformation on eligibility or benefit coverages or entitlements or relating to information transmittal and/or communications, perfunctory or ministerial in nature, involving claims processing, and recordkeeping. Although every effort is and will be made to administer the Plans in a fully accurate manner, any inadvertent error, misstatement or omission will be disregarded and the actual Plan provisions will be controlling. A clerical error will not void coverage to which a Participant is entitled under the terms of the Plans, nor will it continue coverage that should have ended under the terms of the Plan. When an error is found, it will be corrected or adjusted appropriately as soon as practicable. Interest shall not be payable with respect to a Benefit corrected or adjusted. It is your responsibility to confirm the accuracy of statements made by the Plans or our designees, including the Claims Administrator(s), in accordance with the terms of this SPD and other Plan documents.

## ***Records And Information and Your Obligation to Furnish Information***

At times, the Plan or the Claims Administrator may need information from you. You agree to furnish the Plan and/or the Claims Administrator with all information and proofs that are reasonably required regarding any matters pertaining to the Plan. If you do not provide this information when requested, it may delay or result in the denial of your claim.

By accepting Benefits under the Plan, you authorize and direct any person that has provided services to you, to furnish the Plan or the Claims Administrator with all information or copies of records relating to the services provided to you. The Plan or the Claims Administrator has the right to request this information at any reasonable time. This applies to all Covered Persons, including Enrolled Dependents whether or not they have signed the enrollment form.

The Plan agrees that such information and records will be considered confidential. We and the Claims Administrator have the right to release any and all records which are necessary to implement and administer the terms of the Plans, for appropriate medical review or quality assessment, or as we are required by law or regulation.

## ***Circumstances That May Affect Your Plan Benefits***

Under certain circumstances all or a portion of your Benefits under the Plans may be denied, reduced, suspended, terminated or otherwise affected. Many of these circumstances have been addressed elsewhere in this SPD. Such circumstances, in general, include but are not limited to:

- You are no longer in an eligible class of participants
- The Plan is amended, changed or terminated
- You attain the maximum benefit available under the Plans, such as may apply to certain Life Plan Benefits
- You misrepresent or falsify any information required under the Plans; you or your beneficiaries will not be permitted to benefit under the Plans from your own misrepresentation
- You have been overpaid a benefit and the Plans seek restitution
- Your coverage under the Plans is terminated for one of a variety of reasons, for example, failure to pay a supplemental benefit premium or to pay it on a timely basis
- Your coverage is rescinded as permitted by law.

## ***Consequences of Falsification or Misrepresentation***

Coverage for you will be terminated if you falsify or intentionally omit medical history on the application for coverage, submit fraudulent, altered or duplicate billings for personal gain, allow another party not eligible for coverage to be covered under the Plan or obtain Plan Benefits, or allow improper use of your coverage. You will not be permitted to benefit under the Plan from your own misrepresentation. If a person is found to have falsified any document in support of a claim for Benefits or coverage under the Plan, the Plan Administrator may, without anyone's consent, terminate coverage, possibly retroactively if permitted by law (called "recission"), and may seek reimbursement for Benefits that should not have been paid out. Additionally, the Claims Administrator may refuse to honor any claim under the Plan.

You are also advised that suspected incidents of this nature are turned over to Corporate Security to investigate and to address the possible consequences of such actions. You may be periodically asked to submit proof of eligibility to verify claims. All participants are required to cooperate with requests to validate eligibility.

# GLOSSARY

To understand your life insurance coverage, you should be familiar with the following terms:

## **Beneficiary**

The person or persons you name to receive your Life Insurance benefits if you die.

## **Converted life insurance policy**

An individual policy that you may buy *without proof of good health* if your CenturyLink Life Insurance coverage ends.

## **Domestic Partner**

You and Your Domestic Partner have executed a domestic partner affidavit satisfactory to CenturyLink and the insurer, establishing that You and Your partner are domestic partners for the purposes of the policy; or have registered as domestic partners with a government agency or office where such registration is available and provide proof of such registration unless requiring proof is prohibited by law.

## **Plan**

Plan pertains to Retiree Basic and Supplemental Life Plans.

# Appendix

Life Insurance Company

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company "MetLife"  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10166

1-800-638-6420

Group Policy No. 148069

