



Long-Term Care (LTC) Plan Benefits - Prudential

Summary Plan Description

**New York and New England Associates
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Introduction to your long-term care (LTC) coverage

The Verizon Associate Long-Term Care Plan for New York and New England Associates (the Plan) offers financial protection if you need extended care as the result of an illness or accident, or due to the loss of functional ability brought on by aging. The Plan includes:

- Coverage for expenses related to care you need when you are unable to perform certain basic activities of daily living
- Reimbursement to your estate of a portion of the premiums you paid, less any benefits that you received for covered charges, if you die at or before age 70

About this SPD

This document is the summary plan description (SPD) for the Verizon Associate Long-Term Care Plan for New York and New England Associates, including the Other Plan Provisions of Verizon Plans Covering New York and New England Associates, with respect to participants who enrolled with Prudential. The Verizon Long-Term Care Insurance Plan for New York and New England Associates did not offer benefits through Prudential after July 1, 2013, and, therefore, you had to be enrolled before July 1, 2013 to be eligible for the benefits described in this SPD. The Plan is subject to federal law under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and its subsequent amendments. This document meets ERISA requirements for an SPD and reflects Plan provisions effective through the date hereof. It updates and replaces all previous SPDs and other descriptions of benefits provided by the Plan. This SPD is a summary of the Plan.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information included in this SPD. Copies of Plan documents are available by contacting the Plan administrator in writing at the address provided in the "Administrative information" section.

This SPD is divided into the following major sections:

- **Participating in the Plan.** This section explains at the time of enrollment, eligibility for you and your dependents, and when eligibility ends.
- **Your coverage.** This section describes the long-term care insurance coverage available to you. Refer to it when you need information about your coverage and benefits.
- **What is not covered.** This section lists services and supplies not covered under the Plan.
- **How to file a claim.** This section provides information on when you need to file a claim to receive benefits.
- **Additional information.** This section provides additional details about the administrative provisions of the Plan and your legal rights.
- **Terms to know.** This section defines certain terms used in this SPD.

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2013, the LTC insurance being provided through Prudential was closed to new entrants. Accordingly, Prudential will no longer issue any new LTC insurance certificates to Verizon employees and retirees, but will continue to administer LTC benefit claims for participants who remain eligible and enrolled. If you were enrolled in LTC coverage through Prudential under the terms of the Plan as of midnight, in the Eastern Time zone, on June 30, 2013, you will be permitted to continue coverage under the Plan as long as you remain continuously eligible and enrolled.

IMPORTANT: Prudential has the discretionary authority to interpret the terms of the Plan and this SPD and determine your eligibility to participate in the Plan under their terms.

LTC Plan contacts

Option	Contact	Reason to access
LTC	Prudential 888.9VZ.4PRU (888.989.4778) Representatives are available from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern time. Monday through Friday. Mailing address: Prudential Long Term Care Customer Service Center P.O. Box 13410 Pensacola, FL 32591	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain information on how LTC coverage works• Request coverage information• Check the status of a claim• Ask billing questions• Request a copy of your Certificate of Insurance
Other sources for information		
BenefitsConnection	Via the Internet at: verizon.com/benefitsconnection (User ID and password required) Via <u>Inside Verizon</u> on the VzWeb	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request a free printed copy of an SPD
Verizon Benefits Center	855.4vz.bens (855.489.2367)	

Accessing your benefits information

This SPD is available online on BenefitsConnection. Generally, the SPD on BenefitsConnection is the most up to date. Once you have logged onto BenefitsConnection, select Library link from the home page, then select the “Plan Information & SPDs” tab to view your documents

For free printed copies of your SPD, contact the Verizon Benefits Center.

Changes to the Plan

Verizon reserves the right to amend, modify, suspend or terminate the Plan at any time, at its discretion, with or without advance notice to participants, subject to any duty to bargain collectively. Verizon also reserves the right to change the amount of required participant contributions for coverage under the Plan at any time, with or without advance notice to participants, subject to any duty to bargain collectively. The Plan may be amended by publication of any SPD, summary of material modification, enrollment materials or other communication relating to the Plan, as approved by Verizon.

Decisions regarding changes to, or terminations of, benefits are made at the highest levels of management. Verizon employees below those levels do not know whether the Company will adopt any particular change and are not in a position to speculate about such changes. Unless and until changes formally are adopted and officially are announced, no one is authorized to assure that any particular change will or will not occur.

Participating in the Plan

Effective July 1, 2013, the LTC insurance through Prudential was closed to new entrants. Accordingly, Prudential will no longer issue any new LTC insurance certificates to Verizon employees or retirees, but will continue to administer LTC benefit claims for participants who were enrolled prior to July 1, 2013, and remain eligible and enrolled in the LTC benefit through Prudential under the Plan.

You are eligible for Prudential LTC coverage under the Plan if...

You have been **continuously** enrolled in LTC coverage under the Plan with Prudential as of midnight, in the Eastern Time zone, on June 30, 2013, and:

- Are an active Full-time or Part-time Associate employed by and paid directly by a Participating Company and covered by a collective bargaining agreement; or
- Are retired and received a pension under the Verizon Pension Plan for New York and New England Associates.

NOTE:

- “Associate” as used throughout this SPD includes any non-management employee.
- “Service” means net credited service as defined by the Verizon Pension Plan for Associates (to the extent that it covers New York and New England Associates).
- If a court, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or any other enforcement authority or agency finds that an independent contractor or leased employee should be treated as a regular employee of a Participating Company, for example, for purposes of W-2 income reporting or tax withholding, such individual is nonetheless expressly excluded from the definition of eligible employee and is expressly ineligible for benefits under the Policy.

Eligible family members

At the time of enrollment, which must have occurred before July 1, 2013, the following family members, if they were under age 80, were eligible to apply for coverage under the Plan/Policy:

- Your Spouse
- Your Parents or Parents-in-law. Both you and your Spouse were able to enroll one male and one female Parent each. Your designation of a Parent may not be changed after you applied for coverage.

Your Spouse, Parents and Parents-in-law were eligible to apply for coverage even if you declined coverage under the Plan/Policy.

NOTE: Ex-Spouses and dependent children were not eligible for coverage under the Plan.

State eligibility laws and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA)

States sometimes pass laws that require employee benefit plans to provide benefits and/or coverage to individuals who otherwise are not eligible.

It is Verizon's position that the federal law known as ERISA supersedes state law. As a result, the company only covers the individuals outlined in this SPD.

However, when benefits are fully insured, such as the Plan, the insurer (Prudential in this case) may be required to comply with state laws. It is Prudential's responsibility to make this determination.

To the extent that a domestic partner was eligible for coverage due to Verizon's agreement with a municipality or state under an Equal Benefits Ordinance, you were notified.

Paying for coverage

Your or your family member's cost for coverage (the "premium") is based on the following factors:

- Age at the time of application for the Plan
- The coverage selected

Premiums for coverage are payable directly to Prudential through direct billing or automatic monthly withdrawal through a checking or savings account.

NOTE: Your cost will not increase due to age, changing health or benefit claims following enrollment before midnight, Eastern time zone, on June 30, 2013.

If you increase your benefit level at some later date through an inflation offer as outlined in the certificate of coverage, the premium for the increased benefit amount is based only on your age on the effective date of the increase, and does not affect the premium cost for your original coverage.

Changing or canceling coverage

You may decrease or cancel your LTC coverage at any time. If you change your benefit coverage, your cost of coverage is subject to change. You cannot change coverage if nonforfeiture coverage is in effect. See the "Special Plan features" section for nonforfeiture coverage information.

Increasing or decreasing your benefit

You can request a decrease in your Daily Benefit Amount (DBA). Your DBA is the maximum amount you can be reimbursed for LTC services received in a single day.

You will need to provide evidence of insurability before an increase request is approved. Increase and decrease amounts are subject to DBA amounts available at the time of your request. See the "LTC Plan benefits" section for additional information.

All other benefits (including the Lifetime Maximum Benefit) that are computed as a multiple of the DBA also decrease at the same rate as your DBA decreases. If you have received any benefits, only the remaining portion of the Total Lifetime Benefit will decrease by the benefit amount utilized. See the "LTC Plan benefits" section for additional information regarding the Lifetime Maximum Benefit and the transition expense benefit.

Your coverage change is effective on the first day of the month following Prudential's approval of the change.

Canceling your coverage

You may cancel your LTC coverage at any time. You will not be eligible to enroll again.

LTC Plan benefits

Here is a brief summary of the LTC coverage options. All options offer comprehensive coverage that assists with the costs of LTC services received at home, in a Nursing Home or Assisted Living Facility, or in the community. The Plan does not have any pre-existing condition exclusions.

Coverage at a glance

Pre-packaged benefit plans	Plan 1	Plan 2	Plan 3	Plan 4	Plan 5
Daily Benefit Amount	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$300	\$400
Benefit Period	5 years	5 years	5 years	5 years	5 years
Lifetime Maximum Benefit	\$182,500	\$273,750	\$365,000	\$547,500	\$730,000
Nursing Home/Assisted Living/residential care facility; and inpatient hospice coverage	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount
Respite care (up to 30 days per calendar year)	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount	100% of Daily Benefit Amount
Home Care/adult day care/at-home hospice services coverage	75% of Daily Benefit Amount	75% of Daily Benefit Amount	75% of Daily Benefit Amount	75% of Daily Benefit Amount	75% of Daily Benefit Amount
Cash Alternative Benefit (for personal care and other services provided by non-licensed care givers)	Covered at 50% of the Home Care benefit level	Covered at 50% of the Home Care benefit level	Covered at 50% of the Home Care benefit level	Covered at 50% of the Home Care benefit level	Covered at 50% of the Home Care benefit level
Nonforfeiture coverage	With nonforfeiture coverage, you maintain a reduced lifetime benefit coverage amount if you have paid premiums for at least 3 years, but elect to stop making payments. The reduced Lifetime Maximum Benefit is at least 30 times the Daily Benefit Amount or the total premiums paid to date, whichever is greater.				

LTC coverage may vary from state to state. See your certificate of coverage for specific coverage information.

Home support benefit

The plan may be used to pay for items such as emergency response systems, durable medical equipment and home modifications incurred during the Elimination Period; however, these expenses are not paid until you complete the Elimination Period. Examples include:

- Caregiver training
- Costs of covered services (up to the Daily Benefit Amount limit) received during the Elimination Period. See the "What is covered" section for additional information.

The benefit maximum for the transition expense benefit is 60 times the Daily Benefit Amount.

Proof of payment for the expenses must be submitted to Prudential (see the "LTC Plan contacts" section for contact information).

Payment of the home support benefit decreases your Lifetime Maximum Benefit. The home support benefit is not available if you are receiving nonforfeiture coverage.

What is covered

Coverage is provided for these services:

- Skilled, intermediate and custodial care in a licensed Nursing Home or Alzheimer's facility. Custodial care means services provided on an extended basis to a Chronically Ill person. Custodial care services are for maintaining a person's health and/or preventing deterioration in that person's functional status. Custodial care does not include any transportation services or other services that are primarily for personal convenience or companionship.
- Inpatient hospice care
- Care in an Assisted Living/residential care facility
- Voluntary initial care advisory visit. An initial care advisory visit means the service that a care advisor provides to:
 - Assess your need for LTC services
 - Develop or work with others to develop options for your LTC
 - Discuss the LTC options with you, your family or your representative
- Home Care, including:
 - Services from a licensed Home Care agency by registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), licensed visiting nurses (LVNs), social workers and home health aides; homemaker services; and physical, respiratory, occupational and speech therapy
 - Care by an RN, LPN, LVN or a licensed therapist who is not affiliated with a licensed Home Care agency
 - Adult day care
 - At-home hospice care
 - Ongoing advisory services
- Any service provided by your immediate family, unless provided by a Personal Care provider. Note: If eligible, this would be covered under the cash alternative benefit.
- Respite services for up to 30 days per calendar year in a home, Nursing Home or an Assisted Living/residential care facility. This is defined as care provided by an alternative caregiver to temporarily relieve the primary caregiver.
- Alternate plan of service
 - A Prudential case manager can authorize benefits for LTC services not specifically listed if the services are both of these:
 - Meet the needs of the covered person
 - Are a cost-effective alternative to covered services

Benefit amounts

Benefits for covered services are paid as follows:

- 100% of the daily benefit for Nursing Home care, inpatient hospice care, respite care up to 30 days per calendar year or care in an Assisted Living/residential facility care
- 75% of the daily benefit for Home Care, adult day care and at-home hospice services
- The Cash Alternative Benefits feature provides benefits at 50% of the Home Care benefit level.

What is not covered

This plan does not provide benefits for:

- Work-connected conditions charge. A charge covered by a worker's compensation law, occupational disease law or similar law.
- Illness, treatment or medical conditions arising out of:
 - War or an act of war, whether declared or undeclared, if the illness or injury occurs while you are serving in the military, naval or air forces of any country, combination of countries or international organization
 - As a result of the special hazards incident to service in the military, naval or air forces of any country, combination of countries or international organization, if the illness or injury occurs while you are serving in such forces and is outside the home area, while you are insured
 - Your participation in a riot or insurrection, or the commission of or attempt to commit a felony
 - Alcoholism and drug addiction
- Treatment provided in a government facility, unless payment of the charge is required by law or services provided by any law or governmental plan under which you are covered. This does not apply to a state plan under Medicaid or to any law or plan when, by law, its benefits are excess to those of any private insurance program or other non-governmental program.
- Charges for services or supplies for which no charge would be made in the absence of insurance
- Charges for care or treatment provided outside the United States except as described in the International Coverage benefit
- Charges arising from intentionally self-inflicted injury or attempted suicide

Special Plan features

Nonforfeiture coverage

This feature, which is available for an additional cost, enables you to elect a reduced lifetime benefit coverage amount if you have paid premiums for at least three years but choose to stop making payments.

The reduced Lifetime Maximum Benefit is at least 30 times the Daily Benefit Amount or the total premiums paid to date, whichever is greater. See the “LTC Plan benefits” section for Daily Benefit Amount and Lifetime Maximum Benefit information.

Return of premium upon death

The Plan pays an amount equal to 100% of the premiums you have paid at the date of your death – minus any benefits paid or payable for charges incurred – if you die before age 65.

Beginning on your 65th birthday, the percentage of premium that can be returned is reduced by 10% each year until you reach age 75. Once you reach age 75, none of your premium is returned if you die.

Returned premiums are paid to your estate.

This provision does not apply if nonforfeiture coverage is in effect.

Inflation adjustment provision

The Plan offers a choice of inflation adjustment provisions:

- **Automatic inflation protection**

Your Daily Benefit Amount and the remaining portion of your Lifetime Maximum Benefit automatically increase by 5%, compounded annually, on your policy anniversary date. Although the initial premium is higher with this option, your premiums do not increase as your coverage increases. See the “LTC Plan benefits” section for Daily Benefit Amount and Lifetime Maximum Benefit information.

You do not have to provide evidence of insurability, and premiums do not increase, for the increased coverage amount.

- **Optional inflation feature**

You have the option to increase your Daily Benefit Amount and remaining portion of your Lifetime Maximum Benefit by at least 5%, compounded annually, once every three years. You are eligible to take advantage of this optional inflation increase without providing evidence of insurability even if you have declined previous offers.

The premium for increased coverage is based on your age at the time the increase is effective.

Restoration of benefits

If you receive LTC benefits, and then do not receive LTC benefits for six months, your Lifetime Maximum Benefit is restored if you meet all of the following:

- Did not exhaust the Lifetime Maximum Benefit

- Have not been authorized for benefits for the past six months
- Have made premium payments during the continuous six-month period since the last time you were authorized for benefits

Bed reservation

The plan provides a Nursing Home, inpatient hospice or Assisted Living Facility bed reservation benefit up to 60 days per calendar year if you are absent for any reason while confined in such a facility.

For example, if you are in a Nursing Home, an inpatient hospice or Assisted Living Facility and you develop an illness that necessitates your admission to a Hospital for acute care, the plan continues to pay for your Nursing Home, inpatient hospice or Assisted Living Facility bed while you are confined in that Hospital. This benefit protects you from losing your bed reservation at a Nursing Home, an inpatient hospice or Assisted Living Facility if you leave for an admission to a Hospital.

Coverage reinstatement

If you stop paying premiums for coverage, you can apply for reinstatement – at the same premium rate in effect when you stopped paying – within 90 days.

Coverage is reinstated if you meet both of these conditions:

- Pay all back premiums
- Provide evidence of insurability (EOI). (However, if you prove within five months after payments stop that you could not pay because of a loss of functional capacity or cognitive impairment, coverage is reinstated without EOI. After the fifth month of nonpayment of your premiums and up to 12 months of nonpayment of premiums, you must provide EOI.)

International benefit

If you are outside of the United States and are approved for benefits, the plan does not pay for LTC services, but instead pays a per diem benefit amount after you complete the Elimination Period. The per diem benefit amount is 75% of the facility Daily Benefit Amount and Home Care daily benefit. This benefit is paid for a total of 365 calendar days. See the “LTC Plan benefits” section for Home Care information.

This benefit is paid in U.S. dollars.

Filing an LTC claim

You or your covered family members are eligible for benefits after a Licensed Health Care Practitioner provides proof, satisfactory to Prudential, that you are Chronically Ill.

The certification process

Call a case manager at Prudential if you or a covered family member needs LTC services. (See the "LTC Plan contacts" section for contact information.) Case managers are registered nurses who:

- Certify your need for LTC
- Assist in locating sources of care in your community
- Can recommend the type of facility and level of care that is appropriate for your needs

You do not have to follow the recommendations of your case manager, but you must call the case manager to begin the certification process to qualify for benefits. You, your Doctor and your family make the final decisions concerning the type of care you should receive.

Within 10 business days of receipt of necessary information relating to your request for LTC benefits, the case manager will notify you or your covered family member regarding the approval or denial of your LTC benefit eligibility. If you are eligible for LTC benefits, then your notification will contain claim forms for you to submit proof of a claim for LTC benefits. If your request for eligibility for LTC benefits is denied, then you may file an appeal. See the "If a claim is denied" section for additional information on filing eligibility claims, benefit claims and appeals.

You must submit your claim within 90 days after the end of the calendar year in which the expenses were incurred.

When benefits are paid

After you satisfy the Elimination Period, the Plan pays benefits for covered services, as long as you remain certified as Chronically Ill, up to the selected Lifetime Maximum Benefit.

Your provider is paid directly if you assign benefits to him or her. Otherwise, Prudential determines whether you or the provider receives payment.

Elimination Period

The plan does not pay benefits until you satisfy an Elimination (waiting) Period. The Elimination Period begins on the date you are certified as Chronically Ill, and you must remain certified during that time. The Elimination Period is 90 calendar days and does not apply to inpatient and outpatient hospice care.

- You do not have to receive covered services during the Elimination Period. Elimination Period days do not have to be consecutive and are satisfied once per lifetime.

Once you have satisfied the Elimination Period, it does not need to be satisfied again.

Premium waiver

Premium payments are waived beginning on the first day of the month on or after the date you satisfy the waiting period. Premium payments resume on the first day of the month after you no longer are certified as Chronically Ill.

Coordination of benefits*

Your LTC benefits are reduced by the dollar amount payable by any of the following, to the extent that the combination of the benefit and amounts payable, or which would be payable by any of the following, exceed 100% of the actual charge for the covered LTC expenses:

- Any federal, state or other governmental health care plan or law (except Medicaid)
- Any state or federal Workers' Compensation law
- Any employer's liability or occupational disease law
- Any other plan that the employer contributes to or sponsors
- Any mandatory motor vehicle no-fault law

*Applicable only in the states of AK, AR, DE, ID, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, SC, UT, VA, and VT.

When coverage ends

Your coverage ends on the:

- Last day of the month in which your employment with Verizon terminates unless you continue your coverage by direct premium payment to Prudential. See the “Continuing coverage” section for additional information.
- Last day of the month in which you notify Prudential that you wish to cancel coverage
- Day you no longer meet the eligibility requirements unless you continue your coverage by direct premium payment to Prudential. See the “Who is eligible to participate” and “Continuing coverage” sections for additional information.
- Day you receive benefits equal to your Lifetime Maximum Benefit. See the “LTC Plan benefits” section for additional information.
- Last day for which you paid for coverage if you stop making required payments. However, the “reinstatement provision” may apply. See the “Coverage reinstatement” section for additional information.
- Day your eligibility ended if you misrepresent your eligibility status
- Day you die. Depending on your age when you die, the “return of premium upon death” provision may apply. See the “Return of premium upon death” section for additional information.
- Day the Plan ends or the official plan document is amended to eliminate coverage for all participants or a group of participants that includes you, unless you continue your coverage. See the “Continuing coverage” and “Plan documents” sections for additional information.

Your family members’ coverage ends on the:

- Last day of the month in which your family member notifies Prudential that he or she wishes to cancel coverage
- The date the dependent is covered as an employee or retired participant under any company-sponsored long-term care insurance plan
- The last day of the month in which the dependent no longer qualifies as a dependent under the Plan
- Day your family member receives benefits equal to his or her Lifetime Maximum Benefit. See the “LTC Plan benefits” section for additional information.
- Last day for which your family member paid for coverage if he or she stopped making required payments. However, the “reinstatement provision” may apply. See the “Coverage reinstatement” section for additional information.
- Day your covered family member’s eligibility ended if he or she misrepresents his or her eligibility status
- Day your family member dies. Depending on your family member’s age when he or she dies, the “return of premium upon death” provision may apply. See the “Return of premium upon death” section for additional information.
- Day the Plan ends or the official plan document is amended to eliminate coverage for all participants or a group of participants that includes your family members, unless the family member chooses to continue his or her coverage. See the “Continuing coverage” and “Plan documents” sections for additional information.

Extension of benefits

If you are certified as Chronically Ill, and are in a Nursing Home, hospice facility or Assisted Living Facility as of the date your coverage ends, Prudential will extend your LTC benefits. Your benefits will be extended until the earliest of the date:

- You no longer are certified as Chronically Ill.
- You no longer are confined in a Nursing Home, hospice facility or Assisted Living Facility.
- The Lifetime Maximum Benefit has been paid.

Continuing coverage

You have the right to continue coverage if your coverage ends. This is called “continuation coverage.” To continue your LTC coverage, you pay premiums directly to Prudential.

Prudential automatically provides continuation coverage if you or your family members are eligible. If you do not want continuation coverage, you need to notify Prudential.

Continuation coverage generally is not available if:

- You stop making any required payments.
- You notified Prudential that you wished to cancel coverage.
- You receive benefits equal to your Lifetime Maximum Benefit.
- The group policy terminates and coverage is replaced within 31 days by other group coverage that:
 - Is effective on the day following coverage termination
 - Provides benefits that are identical to, substantially equivalent to or exceed those provided by the group policy
 - Calculates your premium based on your age at the beginning of coverage under the group policy

Administrative information

This section contains important information about how your benefits are administered and funded. It also contains information about your rights and responsibilities as a participant and steps you can take if certain situations arise. See the “Your rights under ERISA” section for more information.

Plan name/identification

Long-term care coverage is provided through the Verizon Associate Long-Term Care Plan. It is a welfare plan, listed with the Department of Labor under two numbers: The Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 23-2259884 and the Plan Number is (PN) 585.

Plan documents

The plan documents consist of:

- This SPD
- Applicable summaries of material modifications (SMMs) and other general communications identified as being part of the plan
- Certificates of Insurance
- Any trust agreements formally adopted under the plan
- The pertinent contracts between Verizon and the claims administrator and other firms that provide services under the plan. See the “Additional Plan information” section for contact information.

Collective bargaining agreements

The terms of your benefits may also be governed by a collective bargaining agreement between Verizon and your union. You and your beneficiaries may review the collective bargaining agreement at your location. You can also request a copy by writing to the plan administrator.

Additional Plan information

Plan sponsor/employer	Verizon Communications Inc. One Verizon Way Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Plan administrator	The Verizon Employee Benefits Committee (VEBC) and/or the Chairperson of the VEBC c/o Verizon Benefits Center P.O. Box 8998 Norfolk, VA 23501-8998 855.4vz.bens (855.489.2367)
Claims administrator	Enrollment and eligibility claims and appeals: Prudential Long Term Care Customer Service Center P.O. Box 13410 Pensacola, FL 32591 Benefit claims and appeals: Prudential Long Term Care Customer Service Center P.O. Box 13410 Pensacola, FL 32591

	Since benefits were frozen as of July 1, 2013, the participating companies were the companies that participated in the Plan as of July 1, 2013, and were communicated in the SPD at that time. If you need information on whether a particular company was a Participating Company, please contact the Verizon Benefits Center.
Participating Company	Prudential Long Term Care Customer Service Center P.O. Box 13410 Pensacola, FL 32591
Agent for service of legal process	In addition to the plan administrator above, a copy of the legal process involving this Plan should be delivered to: Verizon Legal Dept. Employee Benefits Group Verizon Communications Inc. One Verizon Way Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Plan year	January 1 - December 31

Funding and type of administration

The Plan is fully insured by Prudential.

Claims and appeals procedures

The authority and discretion to designate each of the claims and appeals administrators is granted to the Verizon Employee Benefits Committee (VEBC) and the Verizon Claims Review Committee (VCRC), and to the individuals who chair each of these committees.

At the time of publication of this SPD, there is one claims and appeals administrators for the Plan.

There are two types of claims: **eligibility** claims and **benefit** claims. See below for more information.

Claims regarding eligibility to participate in the Plan

At this time, for eligibility to participate in the Plan claims, the VCRC has delegated its authority to finally determine claims to Prudential, which has discretionary authority to determine claims and appeals for Plan eligibility.

Eligibility to participate claims should be directed to Prudential.

Claims regarding scope/amount of benefits under the Plan

At this time, for benefit related claims, the VCRC has delegated its authority to finally determine claims to Prudential, which has discretionary authority to determine claims and appeals for your Long-Term Care Insurance Plan benefits.

The address of the claims and appeals administrator for the Plan is listed under the “Additional plan information” section. If you have a claim or appeal, you should contact the claims and appeals administrator.

Prudential has discretionary authority to:

- Interpret the Plan based on its provisions and applicable law and make factual determinations about claims arising under the Plan
- Determine whether a claimant is eligible to participate in the Plan
- Determine whether a claimant is eligible for benefits
- Decide the amount, form and timing of benefits
- Resolve any other matter under the Plan that is raised by a participant or a beneficiary, or that is identified by either the claims or appeals administrator

The claims and appeals administrator has sole discretionary authority to decide claims under the Plan and review and resolve any appeal of a denied claim. In case of an appeal, the claims and appeals administrators' decisions are final and binding on all parties to the full extent permitted under applicable law, unless the participant or beneficiary later proves that a claims and appeals administrator's decision was an abuse of administrator discretion.

Filing an ERISA claim or appeal

Disagreements about benefit eligibility or benefit amounts can arise. If Prudential is unable to resolve the disagreement, a formal appeal procedure is in place for Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) covered plans.

This section explains the steps you or your authorized representative is required to take to file an ERISA claim or appeal. The procedure is slightly different, depending on whether you have an “**eligibility**” claim or a “**benefit**” claim.

An **eligibility** claim is a claim to participate in a plan or plan option or to change an election to participate during the year. A **benefit** claim is a claim for a particular benefit under a plan. It typically will include your initial request for benefits.

A benefit claim is a claim for a particular benefit under a plan. It typically will include your initial request for benefits.

	Eligibility claims procedure	Benefit claims procedure
Benefit Claims Procedure - Step 1:		
How to file a claim	<p>To file an eligibility claim, request a Claim Initiation Form from Prudential. You (or your authorized representative) must return the form Prudential at the address on the form.</p> <p>You must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A description of the benefits for which you are applying• The reason(s) for the request• Relevant documentation <p>See the “LTC Plan contacts” section for contact information.</p>	<p>To file a benefit claim, you (or your authorized representative) should complete the appeal claim form sent with your decision letter or you may write to Prudential to obtain an appeal claim form.</p> <p>See the “LTC Plan contacts” section for contact information.</p>
When you will be notified of the claims decision	You will be notified of the decision within 90 days of Prudential's receipt of your Claim Initiation Form (180 days, when special circumstances apply).	You will be notified of the decision within 90 days of Prudential's receipt of your written claim (180 days, when special circumstances apply).
Failure to provide sufficient information	Prudential will notify you of the deadline to submit additional information, if applicable.	Prudential will notify you of the deadline to submit additional information, if applicable.
How you will be notified of the claim decision	If your claim is approved Prudential will notify you in writing.	If your claim is approved , Prudential will notify you in writing.
	If your claim is denied , in whole or in part, your written denial notice will contain:	If your claim is denied , in whole or in part, your written denial notice will contain:

Eligibility claims procedure	Benefit claims procedure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific reason(s) for the denial • The plan provisions on which the denial was based • Any additional material or information you may need to submit to complete the claim • The plan's appeal procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific reason(s) for the denial • The plan provisions on which the denial was based • Any additional material or information you may need to submit to complete the claim • The plan's appeal procedures

Appeals - Step 2:

About appeals and the claims fiduciary	<p>Before you can bring any action at law or in equity to recover plan benefits, you must exhaust this process. Specifically, you must file an appeal as explained in this Step 2 and the appeal must be finally decided by Prudential, the claims fiduciary. As such Prudential is authorized to finally determine eligibility appeals and interpret the terms of the plan in its sole discretion. All decisions by Prudential are final and binding on all parties.</p>	<p>Before you can bring any action at law or in equity to recover plan benefits, you must exhaust this process. Specifically, you must file an appeal as explained in this Step 2 and the appeal must be finally decided by Prudential. The Claims Review Committee has delegated its authority to finally determine claims to Prudential. As such, Prudential is the claims fiduciary and is authorized to finally determine benefit appeals and interpret the terms of the plan in its sole discretion. All decisions by Prudential are final and binding on all parties.</p>
How to file an appeal	<p>If your claim is denied and you want to appeal it, you must file your appeal within 60 days from the date you receive written notice of your denied claim. You may request access, free of charge, to all documents relating to your appeal.</p> <p>To file your appeal, write to the address specified on your claim denial notice. You should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of your claim denial notice • The reason(s) for the appeal • Relevant documentation 	<p>If your claim is denied and you want to appeal it, you must file your appeal within 60 days from the date you receive written notice of your denied claim. You may request access, free of charge, to all documents relating to your appeal.</p> <p>To file your appeal, write to Prudential and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of your claim denial notice • The reason(s) for the appeal • Relevant documentation
When you will be notified of the appeal decision	<p>You will be notified of the decision within 60 days of Prudential's receipt of your appeal (120 days, when special circumstances apply).</p>	<p>You will be notified of the decision within 60 days of Prudential's receipt of your appeal (120 days, when special circumstances apply).</p>

	Eligibility claims procedure	Benefit claims procedure
	<p>If your appeal is approved, Prudential will notify you in writing.</p> <p>If your appeal is denied, in whole or in part, your written denial notice will contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific reason(s) for the denial • A statement regarding the documents that you are entitled to that are available upon request and free of charge • The plan provisions on which the denial was based • Your right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA 	<p>If your appeal is approved, Prudential will notify you in writing.</p> <p>If your appeal is denied, in whole or in part, your written denial notice will contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific reason(s) for the denial • A statement regarding the documents that you are entitled to • The plan provisions on which the denial was based. • Your right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA
Step 3:		
How to proceed if necessary	<p>The decision on your appeal is final. As a result, Verizon will not review your matter again, unless new facts are presented. You have a right to bring a civil action.</p>	<p>The decision on your appeal is final. As a result, Prudential will not review your matter again, unless new facts are presented. You have a right to bring a civil action.</p>

Your rights under ERISA

As a participant in the plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants are 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 plan. The people who operate your plan, called “fiduciaries” of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

Enforce your rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive it 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 in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court.

If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with your questions

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan administrator.

If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or write to:

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 also may obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

HIPAA privacy rights

The Notice of Privacy Practices for the Verizon Health Plans is included in its entirety in your medical SPD. Because the LTC benefit is fully-insured, you should contact Prudential for a copy of its Notice of Privacy Practices.

Verizon's rights

Verizon's right of recovery

If, for some reason, a benefit is paid that is larger than the amount allowed by the Plan, the Plan has a right to recover the excess amount from the person or agency that received or holds this benefit. This excess amount is subject to a constructive trust in favor of the Plan. The person receiving or holding Plan benefits must produce any instruments or papers necessary to ensure this right of recovery.

Verizon's right to use your Social Security Number for administration of benefits

Verizon retains the right to use your Social Security Number for benefit administration purposes, including tax reporting. If a state law restricts the use of Social Security Numbers for benefit administration purposes, Verizon generally takes the position that ERISA preempts such state laws.

Disclaimer

Your eligibility for benefits is determined by the Plan for Group Insurance and this SPD. Principal has full discretionary authority to interpret the terms of the plan summarized in this document and determine your eligibility for benefits under the plan's terms.

If this SPD conflicts with the provisions of Internal Revenue Code section 7702B, Verizon reserves the right to address the matter with Prudential and modify the plan to comply with Internal Revenue Code section 7702B. It is Verizon's intent that this plan comply with the provisions of Internal Revenue Code section 7702B and related guidance.

Although Verizon presently intends to continue the plan outlined in this SPD, it reserves the right to act through its Board of Directors, most senior human resources officer or through a designee of either to amend, modify, suspend or terminate the plan in whole or in part at any time, at its discretion, with or without advance notice to participants, for any reason, subject to applicable law and any duty to bargain collectively.

The company also reserves the right to change the amount of required participant contributions for coverage under the plan at any time, with or without advance notice to participants, subject to any duty to bargain collectively.

The company may transfer the obligation to provide benefits under the plan or a component benefit (and assets related thereto, if it desires) to another entity in connection with a business transaction, including but not limited to a sale of a business unit or a portion thereof, the sale of any assets, a spin-off transaction, an outsourcing arrangement or a joint venture.

All terms of the plan are legally enforceable. However, this statement of benefits does not constitute a contract of employment or guarantee of any particular benefit.

As a matter of prudent business planning, Verizon is continually reviewing and evaluating various proposals for changes in its benefit plans and programs. Because of the need for confidentiality, such proposals are not evaluated below high levels of management. Verizon employees below such levels do not know whether Verizon will or will not adopt any future changes and/or new benefit plans and programs. Unless and until Verizon formally announces such changes, no one is authorized to give assurances that such changes will or will not occur.

Terms to know

Assisted Living Facility

An Assisted Living Facility/residential care is a facility that must be licensed and/or certified as an Assisted Living Facility or Residential Health Care Facility according to the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is located. For facilities located in a jurisdiction that does not license or certify Assisted Living Facilities or Residential Health Care Facilities, it is a facility that provides ongoing services to a minimum of three residents in one location and is determined by Prudential to meet the following minimum criteria:

- It is a group residence that maintains records for services to each resident.
- It provides services and oversight on a 24 hour a day basis.
- It provides a combination of housing, supportive services and personal assistance designed to respond to the resident's need for help with Activities of Daily Living and instrumental activities of daily living.
- It provides, at a minimum, assistance with bathing, dressing and help with medications.
- It is not licensed as a Nursing Home.

The term "Assisted Living/residential care facility" includes any such facility that specializes in the care of persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

The term "Assisted Living/residential care facility" does not include any facility used primarily as a hotel, motel, place for rest, place for treatment of drug addiction or alcoholism, retirement home, congregate living facility, senior housing facility, facility primarily intended to provide residential services (but not maintenance or personal care) or facility primarily providing care for residents who are related to the owner or manager of the facility.

Chronically III

A Licensed Health Care Practitioner needs to provide proof, satisfactory to Prudential, that you or a family member is Chronically III.

Chronically III means:

- Being unable to perform, without substantial assistance from another person, at least two of the following six activities of daily living for a period expected to last at least 90 days due to a loss of functional capacity:
 - Bathing
 - Toileting
 - Eating
 - Dressing
 - Continence
 - Transferring

Or

- Having a severe cognitive impairment requiring substantial supervision to protect you from threats to health and safety

Daily Benefit Amount (DBA)

The maximum amount you can be reimbursed for long-term care services received in a single day.

Doctor or Physician

The definition of Doctor or Physician includes a Doctor of chiropractic (D.P.M. or D.S.C.), Doctor of chiropractic (D.C.), Doctor of dental medicine (D.M.D.), Doctor of dental surgery (D.D.S.), Doctor of medicine (M.D.), Doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) and Doctor of podiatry (D.P.M.) acting within the scope of his or her license.

Elimination Period

The Elimination Period must be satisfied once during your lifetime before benefits are paid. The number of calendar days for your Elimination Period is 90 days.

Prudential will begin to count days to satisfy your Elimination Period with the date you are certified by a Licensed Health Care Practitioner, within the last 12 months, as being a Chronically Ill individual.

Each day of the period you remain a Chronically Ill individual will count toward the satisfaction of your Elimination Period.

If your period of being a Chronically Ill individual ends before the Elimination Period is satisfied, the number of days that elapsed during that time will be applied towards satisfaction of Elimination Period.

Since hospice care and respite care are not subject to the Elimination Period, days in which those covered services are received do not count toward meeting your Elimination Period.

No benefits are payable during the Elimination Period for charges to which the Elimination Period applies.

Full-time Associate

A Full-time Associate is an active employee who is regularly scheduled to work 25 or more hours per week. In addition, the definition of a Full-time Associate includes job-sharing employees who are regularly scheduled to work at least 40 percent of a regular full-time employee's hours.

Home Care Coverage

Medical and non-medical services provided to ill, disabled, or infirm person in their home.

Hospital

A Hospital is a facility that is licensed as a Hospital and provides:

- A broad range of 24-hour-a-day medical and surgical services for sick and injured persons by, or under the supervision of, a staff of Physicians
- Nursing care 24 hours a day

Licensed Health Care Practitioner

A Licensed Health Care Practitioner is defined as a Physician, a registered nurse, a licensed social worker, or another professional individual who meets the requirements prescribed by the United States Secretary of the Treasury.

Lifetime Maximum Benefit

The maximum lifetime benefit payable for eligible charges according to the benefits you have chosen for this coverage. Your initial Lifetime Maximum is the amount available for all benefits payable under your coverage as of the Original Effective Date. Benefits paid are deducted from the Lifetime Maximum, unless the benefit description states otherwise. If eligible charges are less than your Daily Benefit, only the amount of the benefit payment for the eligible charge is deducted from your Lifetime Maximum.

Nursing Home

A facility that provides skilled, intermediate or custodial care and meets one of the following criteria:

- It is Medicare-approved as a provider of skilled nursing care services.
- It is licensed and operated according to the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is located as a skilled Nursing Home, an intermediate care facility or a custodial care facility.
- It meets all the following criteria:
 - Its main function is to provide skilled, intermediate or custodial nursing care.
 - It is engaged in providing continuous room and board accommodations for three or more persons.
 - It has a Physician on staff or available to it under contract.
 - It is under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse.
 - It maintains medical records for each patient.
 - It maintains control of and records of all medications dispensed.
 - It provides residential services including, but not limited to, food, shelter and laundry.

A Nursing Home shall not include a facility or part thereof that is primarily a facility for the treatment.

Nursing Home/Assisted Living Facility Coverage

The amount you can be reimbursed for Nursing Home, Assisted Living Facility, inpatient hospice and respite care services.

Parent or Parent-in-law

Your or your Spouse's natural Parent or legal adoptive Parent, or any other person who was at one time married to your or your Spouse's natural or legal adoptive Parent.

Participating Company

Verizon or any corporation or partnership that is an affiliate of Verizon that has elected to participate in the Verizon Associate Long-Term Care Plan for New York and New England Associates.

Part-time Associate

A Part-time Associate is an active employee who is regularly scheduled to work fewer than 25 hours per week, other than an employee who has been continuously employed since December 31, 1980, and other than a job-sharing employee who is considered a Full-time Associate.

Personal Care Services

The provision of hands-on services needed to assist a person with a Chronic Illness or disability. Such care can provide assistance with simple health care tasks, personal hygiene and other supportive tasks, including use of the telephone, managing medications, moving about outside, preparing meals, shopping for essentials and transportation to and from health care providers. Personal Care Services can be provided by a skilled or unskilled person.

Spouse

Your Spouse is a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife, pursuant to a legal union, under the laws of the state in which you live.

The definition of Spouse specified in this document is consistent with the definition under the federal Defense of Marriage Act. The Plan uses this definition, even if state or local laws define Spouse differently.

Total Lifetime Benefit

The total dollar amount of benefits that your coverage could pay for covered services. This is calculated by multiplying your Daily Benefit Amount by the benefit period of five years.