

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PLAN**

**SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**

January 1, 2000 Amended & Restated July 1, 2019

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Benefit Strategies LLC

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Town of Needham, MA (the "Company") established the Town of Needham Flexible Benefit Plan (the "Plan") effective January 1, 2000. This Summary Plan Description describes the Plan as amended and restated effective July 1, 2019.

This revised Summary Plan Description supersedes all previous Summary Plan Descriptions. Although the purpose of this document is to summarize the more significant provisions of the Plan, the Plan document will prevail in the event of any inconsistency.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION**

### Eligible Employee

You are an "Eligible Employee" if you are employed by Town of Needham, MA or any affiliate who has adopted the Plan. However, you are not an "Eligible Employee" if you are any of the following:

A leased employee.

A non-resident alien who received no U.S. earned income.

A part-time employee who is expected to work less than 20 hours per week.

You are an "Eligible Employee" for purposes of the Premium Conversion Account on the date you become eligible to receive benefits from the contracts described for Premium Conversion Accounts in the Section titled "BENEFITS" below.

### Date of Participation

You will become a Participant eligible to receive benefits from the Plan on the date you first perform an hour of service as an Eligible Employee.

However, you will become a Participant eligible to make contributions and receive benefits from the Premium Conversion Account on the date you become eligible to receive benefits from the contracts described for Premium Conversion Accounts in the Section titled "BENEFITS" below.

You will stop being a participant eligible to receive benefits from the Plan on the date you are no longer an Eligible Employee or the date you terminate employment with the Company.

## **ELECTIONS**

### In General

When you become eligible to participate in the Plan, you may begin contributing to the Plan. Contributions pertaining to an account will be credited to the applicable account. Your contributions to the Plan are not subject to federal income tax or social security taxes.

Please note that while you may enjoy certain tax benefits, there may be some drawbacks to participation in the Plan. For instance, participation in the Plan may lower your social security benefits. You should consult with your professional tax/financial advisor to determine the consequences of your participation in this Plan.

### Election Procedures

When you are first eligible to participate in the Plan, you must return a completed election form to the Plan Administrator on or before the date specified by the Plan Administrator.

After you are first eligible to participate in the Plan you will generally only be able to change your elections as of the beginning of each Plan Year. Prior to the start of each Plan Year, the Plan Administrator will provide an election form to you. In order to participate in the Plan for the next Plan Year, you must return the completed election form to the Plan Administrator on or before the date specified by the Plan Administrator. However, see "Modification of Elections" below for situations where you may modify elections at a time other than the beginning of a Plan Year.

If, as of the start of a Plan Year, you have not returned an election form by its due date, you will be deemed to have elected not to participate in the Plan for that Plan Year.

### Modification of Elections

Generally speaking, you may only revise your elections as of the start of a Plan Year. However, in certain situations you may modify your elections upon a "change in status". A brief listing of events that constitute a change in status follows. Please note that there are several conditions and/or limitations that apply to the events listed below. Please contact the Plan Administrator if you have any questions or believe that you may qualify for an election change. A change in status includes:

Change in your marital status.

Change in the number of your dependents.

Change in employment status.

A dependent satisfies or ceases to satisfy eligibility requirements.

Change in your place of residence.

Commencement or termination of an adoption proceeding.

Court judgment, decree, or order.

Entitlement to Medicare or Medicaid.

Significant cost or other coverage changes.

You take leave under the FMLA

If you have a change in status, you may modify an election in your Health Care Reimbursement Account but your new annual contribution amount may not be less than the amount previously reimbursed at the time of the election change.

You are permitted to revoke an election of coverage under a group health plan due to reduction in hours of service. In order to revoke an election of coverage under a group health plan due to reduction in hours of service, you must have been in an employment status under which you were reasonably expected to average at least 30 hours of service per week and there is a change in your status so that you will reasonably be expected to average less than 30 hours of service per week after the change. In addition, your revocation of the election of coverage under the group health plan must correspond to your intended enrollment (and any related individuals who cease coverage due to the revocation) in another plan that provides minimum essential coverage with the new coverage effective no later than the first day of the second month following the month that includes the date the original coverage is revoked.

You are permitted to revoke an election of coverage under a group health plan due to enrollment in a qualified health plan offered through the Health Insurance Marketplace. In order to revoke an election of coverage under a group health plan due to enrollment in a qualified health plan offered through the Health Insurance Marketplace, you must be eligible for a special enrollment period

to enroll in a qualified health plan through the marketplace or during the marketplace's annual enrollment period. In addition, the revocation of the election of coverage under the group health plan must correspond to your intended enrollment (and any related individuals who cease coverage due to the revocation) in a qualified health plan through a marketplace for new coverage that is effective no later than the day immediately following the last day of the original coverage that is revoked.

In addition, your election for your premiums will be automatically adjusted for any change in the cost of contracts as permitted by applicable law.

## **BENEFITS**

### Premium Conversion Account

When you become eligible to participate in the Plan, the Plan will establish a Premium Conversion Account in your name. This Account will be credited with your contributions and will be reduced by any payments made on your behalf. This account may be used to pay premiums on the contracts listed below:

Employer Group Medical

Employer Dental

Employer Group Term Life

If a contract is offered in conjunction with a Company-sponsored benefit plan, you will be eligible to make contributions to the Premium Conversion Account only if you are also eligible to participate in the applicable Company-sponsored plan, it is described above and you are eligible to participate in this Plan.

In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Plan and the terms of a contract, the terms of the contract (or the benefit plan under which it is established) will control.

### Health Care Reimbursement Account

When you become eligible to participate in the Plan, the Plan will establish a Health Care Reimbursement Account in your name. This Account will be credited with your contributions and will be reduced by any payments made on your behalf. You will be entitled to receive reimbursement from this account for eligible expenses incurred by you, your spouse and dependents, if any. A dependent is

generally someone who you may claim as a dependent on your federal tax return and also includes a child who is under the age of 27 through the end of the calendar year. You may receive reimbursement for eligible expenses incurred at a time when you are actively participating in the Plan.

The entire annual amount you elect to contribute for the Plan Year for the Health Care Reimbursement Account less any reimbursements already disbursed will be available for reimbursement. The maximum amount you may contribute each year is the maximum amount permitted (\$2,700 for 2019).

Eligible expenses generally include all medical expenses that you may deduct on your federal income tax return, although health insurance premiums are not an eligible expense for the Health Care Reimbursement Account. Medicines or drugs are eligible expenses only if such medicine or drug is a prescribed drug (determined without regard to whether such drug is available without a prescription) or is insulin (unless otherwise excluded). You will not be reimbursed for any expenses that are (i) not incurred in the Plan Year, (ii) incurred before or after you are eligible to participate in the Plan, (iii) attributable to a tax deduction you take in a prior taxable year, or (iv) covered, paid or reimbursed from any other source.

Effective January 1, 2012, if you are a military reservist called to active duty for a period in excess of 179 days or for an indefinite period, you may receive a distribution from your Health Care Reimbursement Account. You must make the distribution during the period beginning on the date of your call-up and ending on the last date that reimbursements could otherwise be made for that Plan Year. The amount you contributed to the Health Care Reimbursement Account minus Health Care Reimbursement Account reimbursements received as of the date of the Qualified Reservist Distribution request can be withdrawn.

#### Dependent Care Assistance Account

When you become eligible to participate in the Plan, the Plan will establish a Dependent Care Assistance Account in your name. This Account will be credited with your contributions and will be reduced by any payments made on your behalf. You will be entitled to receive reimbursement from this account for dependent care assistance. Dependent care assistance is defined as expenses you incur for the care of a qualifying individual. A qualifying individual is a dependent who is under age 13 or a spouse or dependent who lives with you and is physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself/herself. However, these expenses only qualify if they allow you to be gainfully employed.

Not all expenses qualify as dependent care assistance. Only expenses that are excludable from income under federal tax may qualify as dependent care assistance. Some examples of expenses that



qualify are:

Before and after school programs

Care in your home or someone else's home (as long as the care giver is not your spouse or dependent and is age 19 or older)

Licensed child care center

Nursery school or pre-school

Summer day care (not overnight)

Please contact the Plan Administrator before enrolling in the Plan to confirm that the expenses for which you will seek reimbursement will qualify as dependent care assistance.

You will not be reimbursed for any expenses that are (i) not incurred in the Plan Year, (ii) incurred before or after you are eligible to participate in the Plan, (iii) attributable to a tax credit you take for the same expenses, or (iv) covered, paid or reimbursed from any other source.

The maximum amount of expense that may be contributed/reimbursed in any Plan Year is \$5,000 (\$2,500 if you are married and filing a separate return). The amount payable may also not be greater than the amount of your earned income or the earned income of your spouse. Special rules apply in the case of a spouse who is a student or incapable of caring for himself/herself.

You generally must file a Form 2441 to determine whether any part of your Dependent Care Assistance Account is taxable. Please note that participation in the Plan may prevent you from taking a tax credit for the same expenses. You should consult with your professional tax/financial advisor to determine the consequences of your participation in this Plan.

#### Coordination with Other Plans

All claims for benefits that are covered by an insurance policy must be made to the insurance company issuing such insurance policy.

#### Limits on Certain Employees

If you are a highly paid employee or an owner of the Company, federal law may impose limits on

your eligibility to participate in the Plan and/or the benefits you may receive from the Plan.

## **FORFEITURES**

### Plan Year/Termination

Except as provided below, any amounts remaining in your account at the end of the Plan Year will be forfeited after all claims are paid. In addition, except as described below for dependent care expenses, any balance remaining in your account on the date you terminate employment with the Company will be forfeited after all claims are paid.

Any balance remaining in your Health Care Reimbursement Account at the end of any Plan Year up to \$500 will be carried forward and used to fund such benefits in any subsequent Plan Year. This carryover amount will not affect your ability to contribute the maximum amount (2,700) in the subsequent Plan Year.

Effective January 1, 2012, if you cease to be participant in the cafeteria plan (because of termination of employment or other reason) you may continue to be reimbursed for eligible dependent care expenses through the end of the Plan Year (or grace period if applicable).

### Grace Period

However, the unused balance in your Dependent Care Assistance Account that remains at the end of a Plan Year may be used for expenses that you incur during the grace period. The grace period is the 2-1/2 month period after the end of the Plan Year.

## **CLAIMS**

### Deadlines

You must submit claims for reimbursement by September 30th. However, if you terminate employment you must submit claims (other than eligible dependent care expenses) for reimbursement within 90 days after your date of termination.

However, the unused balance in your Dependent Care Assistance Account that remains at the end of a Plan Year may be used for expenses that you incur during the grace period. The grace period is the 2-1/2 month period after the end of the Plan Year. You must submit claims incurred during the grace period for reimbursement by September 30th.

### Debit/Credit Cards

The Company will provide you with a debit, credit or other stored-value card for purposes of making purchases that may be reimbursed from your Health Care Reimbursement Account and/or your Dependent Care Assistance Account. The Plan Administrator will provide you with more information about stored value cards at the time you enroll in the Plan.

### Documentation of Claims

Any claim for benefits must include all information and evidence that the Plan Administrator deems necessary to properly evaluate the merits of the claim. The Plan Administrator may request any additional information necessary to evaluate the claim.

### Method and Timing of Payment

To the extent that the Plan Administrator approves a claim, the Company may either (i) reimburse you, or (ii) pay the service provider directly. The Plan Administrator will pay claims at least once per year. The Plan Administrator may provide that payments/reimbursements of less than a certain amount will be carried forward and aggregated with future claims until the reimbursable amount is greater than a minimum amount. In any event, the entire amount of payments/reimbursements outstanding at the end of the Plan Year will be reimbursed without regard to the minimum payment amount.

### Where to Submit Claims

All claims must be submitted to Benefit Strategies, LLC at PO Box 1300, Manchester, NH 03105. The telephone number is 603-647-4666 and the Fax number is 603-647-4668.

### Refunds/Indemnification

You must immediately repay any excess payments/reimbursements. You must reimburse the Company for any liability the Company may incur for making such payments, including but not limited to, failure to withhold or pay payroll or withholding taxes from such payments or reimbursements. If you fail to timely repay an excess amount and/or make adequate indemnification, the Plan Administrator may: (i) to the extent permitted by applicable law, offset your salary or wages, and/or (ii) offset other benefits payable under this Plan.

### Beneficiary

If you die, your beneficiaries or your estate may submit claims for Eligible Expenses for the portion of the Plan Year preceding the date of your death. You may designate a specific beneficiary for this purpose. If you do not name a beneficiary, the Plan Administrator may pay any amount to your spouse, one or more of your dependents or a representative of your estate.

## **CONTINUATION RIGHTS**

### Military Service

If you serve in the United States Armed Forces and must miss work as a result of such service, you may be eligible to continue to receive benefits with respect to any qualified military service.

### COBRA

Under Federal law, you, your spouse, and your dependents may be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage in certain circumstances. Please see the "COBRA NOTICE" that is attached to the end of this Summary Plan Description for important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. The COBRA NOTICE generally explains COBRA continuation coverage and when it may become available to you. The Plan Administrator will inform you of these rights, if any, when you terminate employment.

### FMLA

If you go on unpaid leave that qualifies as family leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act you may be able to continue receiving health care benefits.

You may elect to continue coverage on a pre-tax or after tax basis for non medical benefits when on leave of absence under the FMLA.

### Non FMLA Leave

In addition, you may elect to continue coverage on a pre-tax or after tax basis when on leave of absence **other** than the FMLA.

## **YOUR RIGHTS**

As a participant in this Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections. You have the right to:

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this Summary Plan Description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### Qualified Medical Child Support Orders

In certain circumstances you may be able to enroll a child in the Plan if the Plan receives a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) and/or National Medical Support Notice. You may obtain a copy of the medical child support procedures from the Plan Administrator, free of charge.

### Loss of Benefit

You may lose all or part of your account if the unused balance is forfeited at the end of a Plan Year and if we cannot locate you when your benefit becomes payable to you.

You may not alienate, anticipate, commute, pledge, encumber or assign any of the benefits or payments which you may expect to receive, contingently or otherwise, under the Plan, except that you may designate a Beneficiary.

### Amendment and Termination

The Company may amend, terminate or merge the Plan at any time.

### Administrator Discretion

The Plan Administrator has the authority to make factual determinations, to construe and interpret the provisions of the Plan, to correct defects and resolve ambiguities in the Plan and to supply omissions to the Plan. Any construction, interpretation or application of the Plan by the Plan Administrator is final, conclusive and binding.

## Taxation

The Company intends that all benefits provided under the Plan will not be taxable to you under federal tax law. However, the Company does not represent or guarantee that any particular federal, state or local income, payroll, personal property or other tax consequence will result from participation in this Plan. You should consult with your professional tax advisor to determine the tax consequences of your participation in this Plan.

## Privacy

The Plan is required under federal law to take sufficient steps to protect any individually identifiable health information to the extent that such information must be kept confidential. The Plan Administrator will provide you with more information about the Plan's privacy practices.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

1. The Plan Sponsor and Plan Administrator is Town of Needham, MA.  
  
Its address is 1471 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02492.  
  
Its telephone number is 781-455-7500.  
  
Its Employer Identification Number is 04-6001238.
2. The Plan is a cafeteria plan under section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code and, to the extent the Plan provides for Health Care Reimbursement Account benefits, the Plan is also a welfare benefit plan. The Plan number is 501.
3. The Plan's designated agent for service of legal process is the chief officer of the entity named in number 1. Any legal papers should be delivered to him or her at the address listed in number 1. However, service may also be made upon the Plan Administrator.
4. The Company's fiscal year ends on 06/30 and the plan year ends on June 30.

## COBRA NOTICE

### Introduction

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. **This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it.** When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

**You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage.** For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

### What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

Your hours of employment are reduced, or

Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

Your spouse dies;

Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;

Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;

Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or

You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

The parent-employee dies;

The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;

The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;

The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);

The parents become divorced or legally separated; or

The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a "dependent child."

### **When is COBRA Continuation Coverage Available?**

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment; Death of the employee; The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).



**For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to Group Benefits Strategies at 11 Midstate Drive, Suite 200, Auburn, MA 01501. The telephone number is 508-832-0490.**

### **How is COBRA Continuation Coverage Provided?**

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

### **Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?**

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as payment to maintain coverage for the remainder of that plan year's spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

The COBRA continuation coverage lasts only until the end of the plan year in which the qualifying event occurs. COBRA continuation coverage may only be elected under this plan if, as of the date of the qualifying event, the maximum benefit available under the plan for the remainder of the plan year is more than the maximum amount that the Plan could require as payment to maintain coverage for the remainder of that plan year.

### **If You Have Questions**

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa). (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available

through EBSA's website.) For more information about the Marketplace, visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov).

#### Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

#### Plan Contact Information

##### Group Benefits Strategies

11 Midstate Drive, Suite 200, Auburn, MA 01501

508-832-0490

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