

**THE ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT  
FBP CAFETERIA PLAN  
SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**

# Introduction

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP sponsors the ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan (the "Cafeteria Plan") that allows eligible Employees to choose from a menu of different benefits paid for with pre-tax dollars. (Such plans are also commonly known as "salary reduction plans" or "Section 125 plans").

This Summary Plan Description ("SPD") describes the basic features of the Cafeteria Plan, how it generally operates and how Employees can gain the maximum advantage from it.

PLEASE NOTE: This SPD is for general informational purposes only. It does not describe every detail of the Cafeteria Plan. If there is a conflict between the Cafeteria Plan documents and this SPD, then the Cafeteria Plan documents will control.

## Cafeteria Plan

### **CAF Q-1. How do I pay for ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP benefits on a pre-tax basis?**

If you become eligible for the plan during the plan year, your Employer will automatically enroll you in the plan unless you indicate to your Employer in writing (or electronically) that you do not wish to be so enrolled.

For subsequent plan years, you may elect to pay for benefits on a pre-tax basis by entering an election with the Employer during the Open Enrollment Period. At the Employer's option, this may be done with a traditional "paper" salary reduction agreement or it may be done in electronic form. Whatever medium is used, it shall be referred to as a Salary Reduction Agreement for purposes of this SPD.

When you pay for benefits on a pre-tax basis, you reduce your salary to pay for your share of the cost of coverage with pretax funds instead of receiving a corresponding amount of your regular pay that would otherwise be subject to taxes.");

Example CAF Q-1(a): Sally is paid an annual salary of \$30,000. Sally elects to pay for \$2,000 worth of benefits for the Plan Year on a pre-tax basis. By doing so, she is electing to reduce her salary, and therefore also her taxable income, by \$2,000 for the year to \$28,000.

From then on, you must pay contributions for such coverage by having that portion deducted from each paycheck on a pre-tax basis (generally an equal portion from each paycheck, or an amount otherwise agreed to or as deemed appropriate by the Plan Administrator).

Example CAF Q-1(b): Using the same facts from Example Q-1(a), suppose Sally is paid 26 times a year (bi-weekly). Because she has elected \$2,000 in benefits, she will have \$76.92 deducted from each paycheck for the year (\$2,000 divided by 26 paychecks equals \$76.92).

### **CAF Q-2. What benefits may be elected under the Cafeteria Plan?**

The Cafeteria Plan includes the following benefit plans:

The Premium Payment Component permits an Employee to pay for his or her share of contributions for insurance plans with pretax dollars. Under the ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan, these benefits may include:

- \* Accident
- \* Bridge
- \* Dental
- \* Disability
- \* Hospital Indemnity
- \* Specific Disease or Condition
- \* Medical
- \* Vision

If you select any or all of these benefits, you will likely pay all or some of the contributions; the Employer may contribute some or no portion of them. The applicable amounts will be described in documents furnished separately to you as necessary from time to time.

The Employer may at its own discretion offer cash in lieu of benefits for participants who do not choose benefits. If the Employer does choose this option, participants will be informed through other communications.

**CAF Q-3. Who can participate in the Cafeteria Plan?**

Employees who are working 30 hours per week or more are eligible to participate in the Cafeteria Plan following 0 days of employment with the Employer, provided that the election procedures in CAF Q-5 are followed.

An "Employee" is any individual who the Employer classifies as a common-law employee and who is on the Employer's W-2 payroll.

Please note: "Employee" does not include the following:

- (a) any leased employee (including but not limited to those individuals defined as leased employees in Code § 414(n)) or an individual classified by the Employer as a contract worker, independent contractor, temporary employee, or casual employee for the period during which such individual is so classified, whether or not any such individual is on the Employer's W-2 payroll or is determined by the IRS or others to be a common-law employee of the Employer;
- (b) any individual who performs services for the Employer but who is paid by a temporary or other employment or staffing agency for the period during which such individual is paid by such agency, whether or not such individual is determined by the IRS or others to be a common-law employee of the Employer;
- (c) any employee covered under a collective bargaining agreement;
- (d) any individual considered "self-employed" by the IRS because of an ownership interest in ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP;
- or (e) a "seasonal employee."

**CAF Q-4. What tax savings are possible under the Cafeteria Plan?**

You may save both federal income tax and FICA (Social Security/Medicare) taxes by participating in the ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan.

Example CAF Q4(a): Suppose Sally pays 15% in federal income taxes for the year. With an annual salary of \$30,000, that could mean as much as \$4,500 in federal income taxes, plus \$2,295 in FICA taxes (calculated at 7.65% of income). But by electing \$2,000 of cafeteria plan benefits for the year, Sally lowers her income by \$2,000, meaning she is only taxed on \$28,000. This comes out to \$4,200 in income tax plus \$2,142 in FICA tax. That's a \$453 tax savings for the year.

**(Caution:** This example is intended to illustrate the general effect of "pre-taxing" benefits through a cafeteria plan. It does not take into account the effects of filing status, tax exemptions, tax deductions and other factors affecting tax liability. Furthermore, the amount of the contributions used in this example is not meant to reflect your actual contributions. It is also not intended to reflect specifically upon your particular tax situation. You are encouraged to consult with your accountant or other professional tax advisor with regard to your particular tax situation, especially with regard to state and local taxes.)

#### **CAF Q-5. When does participation begin and end in the Cafeteria Plan?**

After you satisfy the eligibility requirements, you can become a Participant on the first day of the next calendar month by electing benefits in a manner such as described in CAF Q-1. An eligible Employee who does not elect benefits will not be able to elect any benefits under the Cafeteria Plan until the next Open Enrollment Period (unless a "Change in Election Event" occurs, as explained in CAF Q-7).

An Employee continues to participate in the Cafeteria Plan until (a) termination of the Cafeteria Plan; or (b) the date on which the Participant ceases to be an eligible Employee (because of retirement, termination of employment, layoff, reduction of hours, or any other reason). However, for purposes of pre-taxing COBRA coverage for Health Insurance Benefits, certain Employees may be able to continue eligibility in the Cafeteria Plan for certain periods. See CAF Q-8 and CAF Q-12 for more information about this as information about how termination of participation affects your Benefits.

#### **CAF Q-6. What is meant by "Open Enrollment Period" and "Plan Year"?**

The "Open Enrollment Period" is the period during which you have an opportunity to participate under the Cafeteria Plan by electing to do so. (See Q-5.) You will be notified of the timing and duration of the Open Enrollment Period, which for any new Plan Year generally will occur during the quarter preceding the new Plan Year.

The Plan Year for the ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan is the period beginning on October 01 2015 and ending on September 30 2016.

#### **CAF Q-7. Can I change my elections under the Cafeteria Plan during the Plan Year?**

Except in the case of HSA elections, you generally cannot change your election to participate in the Cafeteria Plan or vary the salary reduction amounts that you have selected during the Plan Year (this is known as the "irrevocability rule"). Of course, you can change your elections for benefits and salary reductions during the Open Enrollment Period, but those election changes will apply only for the following Plan Year.

However, there are several important exceptions to the irrevocability rule, many of which have to do with events in your personal or professional life that may occur during the Plan Year.

Here are the exceptions to the irrevocability rule:

##### **1. Leaves of Absence**

You may change an election under the Cafeteria Plan upon FMLA and non-FMLA leave only as described in CAF Q-14.

##### **2. Change in Status.**

If one or more of the following Changes in Status occur, you may revoke your old election and make a new election, provided that both the revocation and new election are on account of and correspond with the Change in Status (as described in item 3 below). Those occurrences that qualify as a Change in Status include the events described below, as well as any other events that the Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion and on a uniform and consistent basis,

determines are permitted under IRS regulations:

- \* a change in your legal marital status (such as marriage, death of a Spouse, divorce, legal separation, or annulment);
- \* a change in the number of your Dependents (such as the birth of a child, adoption or placement for adoption of a Dependent, or death of a Dependent);
- \* any of the following events that change the employment status of you, your Spouse, or your Dependent and that affect benefits eligibility under a cafeteria plan (including this Cafeteria Plan) or other employee benefit plan of you, your Spouse, or your Dependents. Such events include any of the following changes in employment status: termination or commencement of employment; a strike or lockout; a commencement of or return from an unpaid leave of absence; a change in worksite; switching from salaried to hourly-paid, union to non-union, or full-time to part-time (or vice versa); incurring a reduction or increase in hours of employment; or any other similar change that makes the individual become (or cease to be) eligible for a particular employee benefit;
- \* an event that causes your Dependent to satisfy or cease to satisfy an eligibility requirement for a particular benefit (such as an employee's child covered as a dependent by an accident or health plan who turns 27 during the taxable year); or
- \* a change in your, your Spouse's, or your Dependent's place of residence.

### **3. Change in Status - Other Requirements.**

If you wish to change your election based on a Change in Status, you must establish that the revocation is on account of and corresponds with the Change in Status. The Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion and on a uniform and consistent basis, shall determine whether a requested change is on account of and corresponds with a Change in Status. As a general rule, a desired election change will be found to be consistent with a Change in Status event if the event affects coverage eligibility.

In addition, you must satisfy the following specific requirements in order to alter your election based on that Change in Status:

\* *Loss of Spouse or Dependent Eligibility; Special COBRA Rules.* For Health Insurance Benefits, a special rule governs which type of election changes are consistent with the Change in Status. For a Change in Status involving your divorce, annulment, or legal separation from your Spouse, the death of your Spouse or your Dependent, or your Dependent's ceasing to satisfy the eligibility requirements for coverage, you may elect only to cancel the accident or health benefits for the affected Spouse or Dependent. A change in election for any individual other than your Spouse involved in the divorce, annulment, or legal separation, your deceased Spouse or Dependent, or your Dependent that ceased to satisfy the eligibility requirements would fail to correspond with that Change in Status.

However, if you, your Spouse, or your Dependent elects COBRA continuation coverage under the Employer's plan because you ceased to be eligible because of a reduction of hours or because your Dependent ceases to satisfy eligibility requirements for coverage, and if you remain a Participant under the terms of this Cafeteria Plan, then you may in certain circumstances be able to increase your contributions to pay for such coverage. See CAF Q-12.

\* *Gain of Coverage Eligibility Under Another Employer's Plan.* For a Change in Status in which you, your Spouse, or your Dependent gains eligibility for coverage under another Employer's cafeteria plan (or qualified benefit plan) as a result of a change in your marital status or a change in your, your Spouse's, or your Dependent's employment status, your election to cease or decrease coverage for that individual under the Cafeteria Plan would correspond with that Change in Status only if coverage for that individual becomes effective or is increased under the other Employer's plan.

**4. Special Enrollment Rights.** In certain circumstances, enrollment for Health Insurance Benefits may occur outside the Open Enrollment Period, as explained in materials provided to you separately describing the Health Insurance Benefits. When a special enrollment right explained in those separate documents applies to your Medical Insurance Benefits, you may change your election under the Cafeteria Plan to correspond with the special enrollment right. Special enrollments may also be available as a result of a loss of eligibility for Medicaid or for coverage under a state children's health insurance program (SCHIP) or as a result of eligibility for a state premium assistance subsidy under the plan from

Medicaid or SCHIP.

**5. Certain Judgments, Decrees, and Orders.** If a judgment, decree, or order from a divorce, separation, annulment, or custody change requires your child (including a foster child who is your Dependent) to be covered under the Health Insurance Benefits, you may change your election to provide coverage for the child. If the order requires that another individual (such as your former Spouse) cover the child, then you may change your election to revoke coverage for the child, provided that such coverage is, in fact, provided for the child.

**6. Medicare or Medicaid.** If you, your Spouse, or your Dependent becomes entitled to (i.e., becomes enrolled in) Medicare or Medicaid, then you may reduce or cancel that person's accident or health coverage under the Medical Insurance Plan. Similarly, if you, your Spouse, or your Dependent who has been entitled to Medicare or Medicaid loses eligibility for such coverage, then you may elect to commence or increase that person's accident or health coverage.

**7. Change in Cost.** If the cost charged to you for your Health Insurance Benefits significantly increases during the Plan Year, then you may choose to do any of the following: (a) make a corresponding increase in your contributions; (b) revoke your election and receive coverage under another benefit package option (if any) that provides similar coverage, or elect similar coverage under the plan of your Spouse's employer; or (c) drop your coverage, but only if no other benefit package option provides similar coverage. Coverage under another employer plan, such as the plan of a Spouse's or Dependent's employer, may be treated as similar coverage if it otherwise meets the requirements of similar coverage.) If the cost of Health Insurance significantly decreases during the Plan Year, then the Plan Administrator may permit the following election changes: (a) if you are enrolled in the benefit package option that has decreased in cost, you may make a corresponding decrease in your contributions; (b) if you are enrolled in another benefit package option (such as the HMO option under the Medical Insurance Plan), you may change your election on a prospective basis to elect the benefit package option that has decreased in cost (such as the PPO option under the Medical Insurance Plan); or (c) if you are otherwise eligible, you may elect the benefit package option that has decreased in cost on a prospective basis, subject to the terms and limitations of the benefit package option.

For insignificant increases or decreases in the cost of benefits, however, the Plan Administrator will automatically adjust your election contributions to reflect the minor change in cost.

The Plan Administrator generally will notify you of increases or decreases in the cost of Health Insurance benefits.

**8. Change in Coverage.** You may also change your election if one of the following events occurs:

\* *Significant Curtailment of Coverage.* If your Health Insurance Benefits coverage is significantly curtailed without a loss of coverage (for example, when there is an increase in the deductible under the Medical Insurance Benefits), then you may revoke your election for that coverage and elect coverage under another benefit package option that provides similar coverage. (Coverage under a plan is significantly curtailed only if there is an overall reduction of coverage under the plan generally loss of one particular physician in a network does not constitute significant curtailment.) If your Health Insurance Benefits coverage is significantly curtailed with a loss of coverage (for example, if you lose all coverage under the option by reason of an overall lifetime or annual limitation), then you may either revoke your election and elect coverage under another benefit package option that provides similar coverage, elect similar coverage under the plan of your Spouse's employer, or drop coverage, but only if there is no option available under the plan that provides similar coverage. (The Plan Administrator generally will notify you of significant curtailments in Medical Insurance Benefits coverage.)

\* *Addition or Significant Improvement of Cafeteria Plan Option.* If the Cafeteria Plan adds a new option or significantly improves an existing option, then the Plan Administrator may permit Participants who are enrolled in an option other than the new or improved option to elect the new or improved option. Also, the Plan Administrator may permit eligible Employees to elect the new or improved option on a prospective basis, subject to limitations imposed by the applicable option.

\* *Loss of Other Group Health Coverage.* You may change your election to add group health coverage for you, your Spouse, or your Dependent, if any of you loses coverage under any group health coverage sponsored by a governmental or educational institution (for example, a state children's health insurance program or certain Indian tribal

programs).

\* *Change in Election Under Another Employer Plan.* You may make an election change that is on account of and corresponds with a change made under another employer plan (including a plan of the Employer or a plan of your Spouse's or Dependent's employer), so long as (a) the other cafeteria plan or qualified benefits plan permits its participants to make an election change permitted under the IRS regulations; or (b) the Cafeteria Plan permits you to make an election for a period of coverage (for example, the Plan Year) that is different from the period of coverage under the other cafeteria plan or qualified benefits plan, which it does.

For example, if an election to drop coverage is made by your Spouse during his or her Employer's open enrollment, you may add coverage under the Cafeteria Plan to replace the dropped coverage.

#### **9. Intention or Need to Obtain Coverage through a Marketplace Established under the Affordable Care Act.**

You may revoke your Health Insurance Benefits coverage mid-Plan Year if either one of the following applies:

\* You are seeking to enroll yourself and any other related individuals in coverage to be obtained through a Marketplace.

\* You have experienced a reduction of hours and reasonably expect to be working less than 30 hours for the foreseeable future and will seek coverage to be obtained through a Marketplace.

#### **CAF Q-8. What happens if my employment ends during the Plan Year or I lose eligibility for other reasons?**

If your employment with the Employer is terminated during the Plan Year, then your active participation in the Cafeteria Plan will cease and you will not be able to make any more contributions to the Cafeteria Plan for Insurance Benefits.

See CAF Q-12 for information on your right to continued or converted group health coverage after termination of your employment.

For purposes of pre-taxing COBRA coverage for Health Insurance Benefits, certain Employees may be able to continue eligibility in the Cafeteria Plan for certain periods. See CAF Q-12.

If you are rehired within the same Plan Year and are eligible for the Cafeteria Plan, then you may make new elections, provided that you are rehired more than 30 days after you terminated employment. If you are rehired within 30 days or less during the same Plan Year, then your prior elections will be reinstated.

If you cease to be an eligible Employee for reasons other than termination of employment, such as a reduction of hours, then you must complete the waiting period described in CAF Q-3 before again becoming eligible to participate in the Plan.

#### **CAF Q-9. \*\*\*RESERVED\*\*\***

#### **CAF Q-10. How long will the Cafeteria Plan remain in effect?**

Although the Employer expects to maintain the Cafeteria Plan indefinitely, it has the right to amend or terminate all or any part of the Cafeteria Plan at any time for any reason. It is also possible that future changes in state or federal tax laws may require that the Cafeteria Plan be amended accordingly.

#### **CAF Q-11. What happens if my claim for benefits is denied?**

##### *Insurance Benefits*

The applicable insurance company will decide your claim in accordance with its claims procedures. If your claim is

denied, you may appeal to the insurance company for a review of the denied claim. If you don't appeal on time, you will lose your right to file suit in a state or federal court, as you will not have exhausted your internal administrative appeal rights (which generally is a prerequisite to bringing a suit in state or federal court). For more information about how to file a claim and for details regarding the medical insurance company's claims procedures, consult the claims procedure applicable under that plan or policy, as described in the plan document or summary plan description for the Insurance Plan.

#### *Appeals.*

If your claim is denied in whole or part, then you (or your authorized representative) may request review upon written application to the "Committee" (the Benefits Committee that acts on behalf of the Plan Administrator with respect to appeals). Your appeal must be made in writing within 180 days after your receipt of the notice that the claim was denied. If you do not appeal on time, you will lose the right to appeal the denial and the right to file suit in court. Your written appeal should state the reasons that you feel your claim should not have been denied. It should include any additional facts and/or documents that you feel support your claim. You will have the opportunity to ask additional questions and make written comments, and you may review (upon request and at no charge) documents and other information relevant to your appeal.

#### *Decision on Review.*

Your appeal will be reviewed and decided by the Committee or other entity designated in the Plan in a reasonable time not later than 60 days after the Committee receives your request for review. The Committee may, in its discretion, hold a hearing on the denied claim. Any medical expert consulted in connection with your appeal will be different from and not subordinate to any expert consulted in connection with the initial claim denial. The identity of a medical expert consulted in connection with your appeal will be provided. If the decision on review affirms the initial denial of your claim, you will be furnished with a notice of adverse benefit determination on review setting forth:

- \* the specific reason(s) for the decision on review;
- \* the specific Plan provision(s) on which the decision is based;
- \* a statement of your right to review (upon request and at no charge) relevant documents and other information;
- \* if an internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion is relied on in making the decision on review, then a description of the specific rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion or a statement that such a rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion was relied on and that a copy of such rule, guideline, protocol, or other criterion will be provided free of charge to you upon request; and
- \* a statement of your right to bring suit under ERISA § 502(a) (where applicable).

#### **CAF Q-12. What is "Continuation Coverage" and how does it work?**

##### *COBRA*

If you have elect Health Insurance Benefits under this Plan, you may have certain rights to the continuation of such benefits after a "Qualifying Event" (e.g., a termination of employment). See Appendix B of this SPD for a detailed description of your rights to "continuation coverage" under COBRA.

##### *USERRA*

Continuation and reinstatement rights may also be available if you are absent from employment due to service in the uniformed services pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA). More information about coverage under USERRA is available from the Plan Administrator.

#### **CAF Q-13. How will participating in the Cafeteria Plan affect my Social Security and other benefits?**

Participating in the Cafeteria Plan will reduce the amount of your taxable income, which may result in a decrease in your

Social Security benefits and/or other benefits which are based on taxable income. However, the tax savings that you realize through Cafeteria Plan participation will often more than offset any reduction in other benefits. If you are still unsure, you are encouraged to consult with your accountant or other tax advisor.

**CAF Q-14. How do leaves of absence (such as under FMLA) affect my benefits?**

*FMLA Leaves of Absence.*

If the Employer is subject to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and you go on a qualifying leave under the FMLA, then to the extent required by the FMLA your Employer will continue to maintain your Health Insurance Benefits on the same terms and conditions as if you were still active (that is, your Employer will continue to pay its share of the contributions to the extent that you opt to continue coverage). Your Employer may require you to continue all Medical Insurance Benefits coverage while you are on paid leave (so long as Participants on non-FMLA paid leave are required to continue coverage). If so, you will pay your share of the contributions by the method normally used during any paid leave (for example, on a pre-tax salary-reduction basis).

If you are going on unpaid FMLA leave (or paid FMLA leave where coverage is not required to be continued) and you opt to continue your Insurance Benefits, then you may pay your share of the contributions in one of three ways: (a) with after-tax dollars while on leave; (b) with pretax dollars to the extent that you receive compensation during the leave, or by pre-paying all or a portion of your share of the contributions for the expected duration of the leave on a pre-tax salary reduction basis out of your pre-leave compensation, including unused sick days and vacation days (to pre-pay in advance, you must make a special election before such compensation normally would be available to you (but note that prepayments with pre-tax dollars may not be used to pay for coverage during the next Plan Year); or (c) by other arrangements agreed upon by you and the Plan Administrator (for example, the Plan Administrator may pay for coverage during the leave and withhold amounts from your compensation upon your return from leave).

If your Employer requires all Participants to continue Insurance Benefits during the unpaid FMLA leave, then you may discontinue paying your share of the required contributions until you return from leave. Upon returning from leave, you must pay your share of any required contributions that you did not pay during the leave. Payment for your share will be withheld from your compensation either on a pre-tax or after-tax basis, depending on what you and the Plan Administrator agree to.

If your Health Insurance coverage ceases while you are on FMLA leave (e.g., for non-payment of required contributions), you will be permitted to re-enter such Benefits, as applicable, upon return from such leave on the same basis as when you were participating in the Plan before the leave or as otherwise required by the FMLA. You may be required to have coverage for such Benefits reinstated so long as coverage for Employees on non-FMLA leave is required to be reinstated upon return from leave.

If you are commencing or returning from FMLA leave, then your election for non-health benefits provided under this Plan, if any, will be treated in the same way as under your Employer's policy for providing such Benefits for Participants on a non-FMLA leave (see below). If that policy permits you to discontinue contributions while on leave, then upon returning from leave you will be required to repay the contributions not paid by you during leave. Payment will be withheld from your compensation either on a pre-tax or after-tax basis, as agreed to by the Plan Administrator and you or as the Plan Administrator otherwise deems appropriate.

*Non-FMLA Leaves of Absence.*

If you go on an unpaid leave of absence that does not affect eligibility, then you will continue to participate and the contribution due from you (if not otherwise paid by your regular salary reductions) will be paid by pre-payment before going on leave, with after-tax contributions while on leave, or with catch-up contributions after the leave ends, as determined by the Plan Administrator. If you go on an unpaid leave that does affect eligibility, then the Change in Status rules will apply.

## **Premium Payment Benefits**

### **PREM Q-1. What are "Premium Payment Benefits"?**

As described in CAF Q-1, if you elect Premium Payment Benefits you will be able to pay for your share of contributions for Insurance Benefits with pre-tax dollars by electing to do so. Because the share of the contributions that you pay will be with pre-tax funds, you may save both federal income taxes and FICA (Social Security) taxes. See Q-4.

### **PREM Q-2. How are my Premium Payment Benefits paid?**

As described in CAF Q-1 and in PREM Q-1, if you select an Insurance Plan described in CAF Q-2, then you may be required to pay a portion of the contributions. When you complete the Election Form/Salary Reduction Agreement, if you elect to pay for benefits on a pre-tax basis you agree to a salary reduction to pay for your share of the cost of coverage (also known as contributions) with pre-tax funds instead of receiving a corresponding amount of your regular pay that would otherwise be subject to taxes. From then on, you must pay a contribution for such coverage by having that portion deducted from each paycheck on a pre-tax basis (generally an equal portion from each paycheck, or an amount otherwise agreed to or as deemed appropriate by the Plan Administrator).

The Employer may contribute all, some, or no portion of the Premium Payment Benefits that you have selected, as described in documents furnished separately to you from time to time.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **MISC Q-1**

#### **What are my ERISA Rights?**

The Cafeteria Plan is not an ERISA welfare benefit plan under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The SPDs of the various benefits components of the Plan will describe your rights under ERISA, if applicable, under that component.

Regardless, a participant in the Cafeteria Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under ERISA. ERISA provides that all participants shall be entitled to:

- \* Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations (such as worksites) all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series), if any, 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 Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies); and
- \* Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report, if any. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

**COBRA and HIPAA Rights.** You have a right to continue your Health Insurance Plan coverage for yourself 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 SPD and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation

coverage rights.

**HIPAA Privacy Rights.** Under another provision of HIPAA, group health plans are required to take steps to ensure that certain "protected health information" (PHI) is kept confidential. You may receive a separate notice from the Employer (or medical insurers) that outlines its health privacy policies.

**Fiduciary Obligations.** In addition to creating rights for participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefits plan. The people who operate your plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other participants.

**No Discrimination.** 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 plan benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

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

**Enforcing Your Rights.** Under ERISA, there are steps that you can take to enforce these rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report (if any) 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 them, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator. If you have a claim for benefits that is denied or ignored in whole or in part, then you may file suit in a state or federal court (but only if you have first filed your claim under the Plan's claims procedures and, if applicable, filed a timely appeal of any denial of your claim).

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

#### **MISC Q-2. What other general information should I know?**

This MISC Q-2 contains certain general information that you may need to know about the Plan.

#### **Plan Information**

Official Name of the Plan: ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan

Plan Number: 501

Effective Date: October 01 2015.

Plan Year: October 01 2015 to September 30 2016. Your Plan's records are maintained on this period of time

Type of Plan: Welfare plan providing various insurance benefits

**Employer/Plan Sponsor Information**

Name and Address:

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FB  
PO BOX 5307  
TEXARKANA, TX 75505

Federal employee tax identification number (EIN): 751293383

**Plan Administrator Information**

Name, Address, and business telephone number:

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FB  
PO BOX 5307  
TEXARKANA, TX 75505  
Attention: Human Resources Manager  
Telephone: 9038328636

**Agent for Service of Legal Process**

The name and address of the Plan's agent for service of legal process is:

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FB  
PO BOX 5307  
TEXARKANA, TX 75505  
Attention: Benefits Committee

**Qualified Medical Child Support Order**

The Health Insurance Plans will provide benefits as required by any qualified medical child support order (QMCSO), as defined in ERISA § 609(a). The Plan has detailed procedures for determining whether an order qualifies as a QMCSO. Participants and beneficiaries can obtain, without charge, a copy of such procedures from the Plan Administrator.

**Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996**

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery or to less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours, as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

## Appendix A

**\*\*\*Affiliated Employers\*\*\***

## Appendix B

### **COBRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE RIGHTS under the ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan (the "Plan")**

The following paragraphs generally explain COBRA coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect the right to receive it. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY.

The ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan has group health insurance components and you may be enrolled in one or more of these components. COBRA (and the description of COBRA coverage contained in this SPD) applies only to the group health plan benefits offered under the Plan and not to any other benefits offered under the Plan or by ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP. The Plan provides no greater COBRA rights than what COBRA requires - nothing in this SPD is intended to expand your rights beyond COBRA's requirements.

#### **What Is COBRA Coverage?**

COBRA coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed below in the section entitled "Who Is Entitled to Elect COBRA?"

*COBRA coverage may become available to "qualified beneficiaries"*

After a qualifying event occurs and any required notice of that event is properly provided to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP, COBRA coverage must be offered to each person losing Plan coverage who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries and would be entitled to elect COBRA if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. (Certain newborns, newly adopted children, and alternate recipients under QMCSOs may also be qualified beneficiaries. This is discussed in more detail in separate paragraphs below.)

#### **Who Is Entitled to Elect COBRA?**

We use the pronoun "you" in the following paragraphs regarding COBRA to refer to each person covered under the Plan who is or may become a qualified beneficiary.

##### *Qualifying events for the covered employee*

If you are an employee, you will be entitled to elect COBRA if you lose your group health coverage under the Plan because either one of the following qualifying events happens:

- \* your hours of employment are reduced; or
- \* your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

##### *Qualifying events for the covered spouse*

If you are the spouse of an employee, you will be entitled to elect COBRA if you lose your group health coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- \* 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;
- \* you become divorced or legally separated from your spouse. Also, if your spouse (the employee) reduces or eliminates your group health coverage in anticipation of a divorce or legal separation, and a divorce or legal separation later occurs, then the divorce or legal separation may be considered a qualifying event for you even though your

coverage was reduced or eliminated before the divorce or separation.

#### *Qualifying events for dependent children*

If you are the dependent child of an employee, you will be entitled to elect COBRA if you lose your group health coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- \* your parent-employee dies;
- \* your parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- \* your parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- \* you stop being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."

#### *Electing COBRA after leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)*

Under special rules that apply if an employee does not return to work at the end of an FMLA leave, some individuals may be entitled to elect COBRA even if they were not covered under the Plan during the leave. Contact ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP for more information about these special rules.

#### *Special second election period for certain eligible employees who did not elect COBRA*

Certain employees and former employees who are eligible for federal trade adjustment assistance (TAA) or alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) are entitled to a second opportunity to elect COBRA for themselves and certain family members (if they did not already elect COBRA) during a special second election period of 60 days or less (but only if the election is made within six months after Plan coverage is lost).

#### **When Is COBRA Coverage Available?**

When the qualifying event is the end of employment, reduction of hours of employment, or death of the employee, the Plan will offer COBRA coverage to qualified beneficiaries. You need not notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of any of these qualifying events.

#### **Caution:**

You stop being eligible for coverage as dependent child whenever you fail to satisfy any part of the plan's definition of dependent child.

#### *You must notify the plan administrator of certain qualifying events by this deadline*

For the 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), a COBRA election will be available to you only if you notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP in writing within 60 days after the later of (1) the date of the qualifying event; or (2) the date on which the qualified beneficiary loses (or would lose) coverage under the terms of the Plan as a result of the qualifying event.

#### *No COBRA election will be available unless you follow the Plan's notice procedures and meet the notice deadline*

In providing this notice, you must use the Plan's form entitled "Notice of Qualifying Event Form" and you must follow the notice procedures specified in the section below entitled "Notice Procedures." If these procedures are not followed or if the notice is not provided to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP during the 60-day notice period, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO ELECT COBRA.

#### *How to elect COBRA*

To elect COBRA, you must complete the Election Form that is part of the Plan's COBRA election notice and mail or hand-deliver it to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP. An election notice will be provided to qualified beneficiaries at the time of a qualifying event. You may also obtain a copy of the Election Form from ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP.

#### *Deadline for COBRA election*

If mailed, your election must be postmarked (or if hand-delivered, your election must be received by the individual at the address specified on the Election Form) no later than 60 days after the date of the COBRA election notice provided to you at the time of your qualifying event (or, if later, 60 days after the date that Plan coverage is lost). **IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT A COMPLETED ELECTION FORM BY THIS DUE DATE, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO ELECT COBRA.**

#### *Independent election rights*

Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA.

Any qualified beneficiary for whom COBRA is not elected within the 60-day election period specified in the Plan's COBRA election notice **WILL LOSE HIS OR HER RIGHT TO ELECT COBRA COVERAGE.**

### **Special Considerations in Deciding Whether to Elect COBRA**

In considering whether to elect COBRA, you should take into account that a failure to elect COBRA will affect your future rights under federal law. You have the right to request special enrollment in another group health plan for which you are otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by your spouse's employer) within 30 days after your group health coverage under the Plan ends because of one of the qualifying events listed above. You will also have the same special enrollment right at the end of COBRA coverage if you get COBRA coverage for the maximum time available to you.

### **Length of COBRA Coverage**

COBRA coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage. The COBRA coverage periods described below are maximum coverage periods.

COBRA coverage can end before the end of the maximum coverage period for several reasons, which are described in the section below entitled "Termination of COBRA Coverage Before the End of the Maximum Coverage Period."

#### *Death, divorce, legal separation, or child's loss of dependent status*

When Plan coverage is lost due to the death of the employee, the covered employee's divorce or legal separation, or a dependent child's losing eligibility as a dependent child, COBRA coverage under the Plan's Medical and Dental components can last for up to a total of 36 months.

*If the covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare within 18 months before his or her termination of employment or reduction of hours.*

When Plan coverage is lost due to the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, and the employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA coverage under the Plan's Medical and Dental components for qualified beneficiaries (other than the employee) who lose coverage as a result of the qualifying event can last until up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. For example, if a covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare eight months before the date on which his employment terminates, COBRA coverage for his spouse and children who lost coverage as a result of his termination can last up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement, which is equal to 28 months after the date of the qualifying event (36 months minus eight months). This COBRA coverage period is available only if the covered employee becomes entitled

to Medicare within 18 months BEFORE the termination or reduction of hours.

#### *Termination of employment or reduction of hours*

Otherwise, when Plan coverage is lost due to the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, COBRA coverage under the Plan's Medical and Dental components generally can last for only up to a total of 18 months.

#### **Extension of Maximum Coverage Period**

If the qualifying event that resulted in your COBRA election was the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours, an extension of the maximum period of coverage may be available if a qualified beneficiary is disabled or a second qualifying event occurs. You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of a disability or a second qualifying event in order to extend the period of COBRA coverage. Failure to provide notice of a disability or second qualifying event will eliminate the right to extend the period of COBRA coverage.

#### *Disability extension of COBRA coverage*

If a qualified beneficiary is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled and you notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP in a timely fashion, all of the qualified beneficiaries in your family may be entitled to receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA coverage, for a total maximum of 29 months. This extension is available only for qualified beneficiaries who are receiving COBRA coverage because of a qualifying event that was the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours. The disability must have started at some time before the 61st day after the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours and must last at least until the end of the period of COBRA coverage that would be available without the disability extension (generally 18 months, as described above). Each qualified beneficiary will be entitled to the disability extension if one of them qualifies.

*You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of a qualified beneficiary's disability by this deadline*

The disability extension is available only if you notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP in writing of the Social Security Administration's determination of disability within 60 days after the latest of:

- \* the date of the Social Security Administration's disability determination;
- \* the date of the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours; and
  
- \* the date on which the qualified beneficiary loses (or would lose) coverage under the terms of the Plan as a result of the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours.

You must also provide this notice within 18 months after the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours in order to be entitled to a disability extension.

*No disability extension will be available unless you follow the Plan's notice procedures and meet the notice deadline*

In providing this notice, you must use the Plan's form entitled "Notice of Disability Form" and you must follow the notice procedures specified in the section below entitled "Notice Procedures."

If these procedures are not followed or if the notice is not provided to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP during the 60-day notice period and within 18 months after the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours, then there will be no disability extension of COBRA coverage.

#### *Second qualifying event extension of COBRA coverage*

An extension of coverage will be available to spouses and dependent children who are receiving COBRA coverage if a second qualifying event occurs during the 18 months (or, in the case of a disability extension, the 29 months) following the covered employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours. The maximum amount of COBRA coverage available when a second qualifying event occurs is 36 months. Such second qualifying events may include the death of a covered employee, divorce or legal separation from the covered employee, or a dependent child's ceasing to be eligible for coverage as a dependent under the Plan. These events can be a second qualifying event only if they would have caused the qualified beneficiary to lose coverage under the Plan if the first qualifying event had not occurred. (This extension is not available under the Plan when a covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare after his or her termination of employment or reduction of hours.)

*You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of a second qualifying event by this deadline*

This extension due to a second qualifying event is available only if you notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP in writing of the second qualifying event within 60 days after the date of the second qualifying event.

*No extension will be available unless you follow the Plan's notice procedures and meet the notice deadline*

In providing this notice, you must use the Plan's form entitled "Notice of Second Qualifying Event Form" (you may obtain a copy of this form from ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP at no charge), and you must follow the notice procedures specified in the section below entitled "Notice Procedures." If these procedures are not followed or if the notice is not provided to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP during the 60-day notice period, then there will be no extension of COBRA coverage due to a second qualifying event.

### **Termination of COBRA Coverage Before the End of the Maximum Coverage Period**

COBRA coverage will automatically terminate before the end of the maximum period if:

- \* any required premium is not paid in full on time;
- \* a qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both) after electing COBRA;
- \* the employer ceases to provide any group health plan for its employees; or
- \* during a disability extension period, the disabled qualified beneficiary is determined by the Social Security Administration to be no longer disabled (COBRA coverage for all qualified beneficiaries, not just the disabled qualified beneficiary, will terminate).

COBRA coverage may also be terminated for any reason the Plan would terminate coverage of a participant or beneficiary not receiving COBRA coverage (such as fraud).

*You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP if a qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare or obtains other group health plan coverage*

You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP in writing within 30 days if, after electing COBRA, a qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both) or becomes covered under other group health plan coverage. In addition, if you were already entitled to Medicare before electing COBRA, notify Employer of the date of your Medicare entitlement at the address shown in the section below entitled "Notice Procedures."

*You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP if a qualified beneficiary ceases to be disabled*

If a disabled qualified beneficiary is determined by the Social Security Administration to no longer be disabled, you must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of that fact within 30 days after the Social Security Administration's determination.

### **Cost of COBRA Coverage**

Each qualified beneficiary is required to pay the entire cost of COBRA coverage. The amount a qualified beneficiary may be required to pay may not exceed 102% (or, in the case of an extension of COBRA coverage due to a disability, 150%) of the cost to the group health plan (including both employer and employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated plan participant or beneficiary who is not receiving COBRA coverage. The amount of your COBRA premiums may change from time to time during your period of COBRA coverage and will most likely increase over time. You will be notified of COBRA premium changes.

### **Payment for COBRA Coverage**

#### *How premium payments must be made*

All COBRA premiums must be paid by check. Your first payment and all monthly payments for COBRA coverage must be mailed or hand-delivered to the individual at the payment address specified in the election notice provided to you at the time of your qualifying event. However, if the Plan notifies you of a new address for payment, you must mail or hand-deliver all payments for COBRA coverage to the individual at the address specified in that notice of a new address.

#### *When premium payments are considered to be made*

If mailed, your payment is considered to have been made on the date that it is postmarked. If hand-delivered, your payment is considered to have been made when it is received by the individual at the address specified above. You will not be considered to have made any payment by mailing or hand-delivering a check if your check is returned due to insufficient funds or otherwise.

#### *First payment for COBRA coverage*

If you elect COBRA, you do not have to send any payment with the Election Form. However, you must make your first payment for COBRA coverage not later than 45 days after the date of your election. (This is the date your Election Form is postmarked, if mailed, or the date your Election Form is received by the individual at the address specified for delivery of the Election Form, if hand-delivered.) See the section above entitled "Electing COBRA Coverage."

Your first payment must cover the cost of COBRA coverage from the time your coverage under the Plan would have otherwise terminated up through the end of the month before the month in which you make your first payment. (For example, Sue's employment terminates on September 30, and she loses coverage on September 30. Sue elects COBRA on November 15. Her initial premium payment equals the premiums for October and November and is due on or before December 30, the 45th day after the date of her COBRA election.)

You are responsible for making sure that the amount of your first payment is correct. You may contact ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP using the contact information provided below to confirm the correct amount of your first payment. Claims for reimbursement will not be processed and paid until you have elected COBRA and made the first payment for it.

If you do not make your first payment for COBRA coverage in full within 45 days after the date of your election, you will lose all COBRA rights under the Plan.

#### *Monthly payments for COBRA coverage*

After you make your first payment for COBRA coverage, you will be required to make monthly payments for each subsequent month of COBRA coverage. The amount due for each month for each qualified beneficiary will be disclosed in the election notice provided to you at the time of your qualifying event. Under the Plan, each of these monthly payments for COBRA coverage is due on the first day of the month for that month's COBRA coverage. If you make a monthly payment on or before the first day of the month to which it applies, your COBRA coverage under the Plan will

continue for that month without any break. ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP will not send periodic notices of payments due for these coverage periods (that is, we will not send a bill to you for your COBRA coverage - it is your responsibility to pay your COBRA premiums on time).

#### *Grace periods for monthly COBRA premium payments*

Although monthly payments are due on the first day of each month of COBRA coverage, you will be given a grace period of 30 days after the first day of the month to make each monthly payment. Your COBRA coverage will be provided for each month as long as payment for that month is made before the end of the grace period for that payment. However, if you pay a monthly payment later than the first day of the month to which it applies, but before the end of the grace period for the month, your coverage under the Plan will be suspended as of the first day of the month and then retroactively reinstated (going back to the first day of the month) when the monthly payment is received. This means that any claim you submit for benefits while your coverage is suspended may be denied and may have to be resubmitted once your coverage is reinstated.

If you fail to make a monthly payment before the end of the grace period for that month, you will lose all rights to COBRA coverage under the Plan.

### **More Information About Individuals Who May Be Qualified Beneficiaries**

#### *Children born to or placed for adoption with the covered employee during a period of COBRA coverage*

A child born to, adopted by, or placed for adoption with a covered employee during a period of COBRA coverage is considered to be a qualified beneficiary provided that, if the covered employee is a qualified beneficiary, the covered employee has elected COBRA coverage for himself or herself. The child's COBRA coverage begins when the child is enrolled in the Plan, whether through special enrollment or open enrollment, and it lasts for as long as COBRA coverage lasts for other family members of the employee. To be enrolled in the Plan, the child must satisfy the otherwise applicable Plan eligibility requirements (for example, regarding age).

#### *Alternate recipients under QMCSOs*

A child of the covered employee who is receiving benefits under the Plan pursuant to a qualified medical child support order (QMCSO) received by ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP during the covered employee's period of employment with ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP is entitled to the same rights to elect COBRA as an eligible dependent child of the covered employee.

### **NOTICE PROCEDURES ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Welfare Benefits Plan (the Plan)**

WARNING: If your notice is late or if you do not follow these notice procedures, you and all related qualified beneficiaries will lose the right to elect COBRA (or will lose the right to an extension of COBRA coverage, as applicable).

### **Notices Must Be Written and Submitted on Plan Forms**

Any notice that you provide must be in writing and must be submitted on the Plan's required form (the Plan's required forms are described above in this SPD, and you may obtain copies from ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP without charge). Oral notice, including notice by telephone, is not acceptable. Electronic (including e-mailed or faxed) notices are not acceptable.

### **How, When, and Where to Send Notices**

You must mail or hand-deliver your notice to:

Human Resources Manager  
ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP  
PO BOX 5307  
TEXARKANA, TX 75505

However, if a different address for notices to the Plan appears in the Plan's most recent summary plan description, you must mail or hand-deliver your notice to that address (if you do not have a copy of the Plan's most recent summary plan description, you may request one from ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP).

If mailed, your notice must be postmarked no later than the last day of the applicable notice period. If hand-delivered, your notice must be received by the individual at the address specified above no later than the last day of the applicable notice period. (The applicable notice periods are described in the paragraphs above entitled "You must notify the plan administrator of certain qualifying events by this deadline," "You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of a qualified beneficiary's disability by this deadline", and "You must notify ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP of a second qualifying event by this deadline.")

### **Information Required for All Notices**

Any notice you provide must include (1) the name of the Plan (ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Welfare Benefits Plan); (2) the name and address of the employee who is (or was) covered under the Plan; (3) the name(s) and address(es) of all qualified beneficiary(ies) who lost coverage as a result of the qualifying event; (4) the qualifying event and the date it happened; and (5) the certification, signature, name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the notice.

### **Additional Information Required for Notice of Qualifying Event**

If the qualifying event is a divorce or legal separation, your notice must include a copy of the decree of divorce or legal separation. If your coverage is reduced or eliminated and later a divorce or legal separation occurs, and if you are notifying ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP that your Plan coverage was reduced or eliminated in anticipation of the divorce or legal separation, your notice must include evidence satisfactory to ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP that your coverage was reduced or eliminated in anticipation of the divorce or legal separation.

### **Additional Information Required for Notice of Disability**

Any notice of disability that you provide must include (1) the name and address of the disabled qualified beneficiary; (2) the date that the qualified beneficiary became disabled; (3) the names and addresses of all qualified beneficiaries who are still receiving COBRA coverage; (4) the date that the Social Security Administration made its determination; (5) a copy of the Social Security Administration's determination; and (6) a statement whether the Social Security Administration has subsequently determined that the disabled qualified beneficiary is no longer disabled.

### **Additional Information Required for Notice of Second Qualifying Event**

Any notice of a second qualifying event that you provide must include (1) the names and addresses of all qualified beneficiaries who are still receiving COBRA coverage; (2) the second qualifying event and the date that it happened; and (3) if the second qualifying event is a divorce or legal separation, a copy of the decree of divorce or legal separation.

### **Who May Provide Notices**

The covered employee, a qualified beneficiary who lost coverage due to the qualifying event described in the notice, or a representative acting on behalf of either may provide notices. A notice provided by any of these individuals will satisfy any responsibility to provide notice on behalf of all qualified beneficiaries who lost coverage due to the qualifying event described in the notice.

**THIS CONCLUDES THE SUMMARY OF YOUR CONTINUATION COVERAGE RIGHTS UNDER COBRA. PLEASE CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE (OR THE EQUIVALENT THEREOF) OF ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBPs IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFORMATION.**

# **ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FBP Cafeteria Plan Summary Plan Description Addendum with Regard to Health Savings Accounts**

## **HSA Q-1. What are "HSA Benefits"?**

As described in HSA Q-2, an HSA permits Employees to make pre-tax contributions to an HSA established and maintained outside the Plan with the Employee's HSA trustee/custodian. For purposes of this Cafeteria Plan, HSA Benefits consist solely of the ability to make such pre-tax contributions under this Cafeteria Plan.

If you elect HSA Benefits, then you will be able to provide a source of pre-tax contributions by entering into a Salary Reduction Agreement with your Employer. Because the share of the contributions that you pay will be with pre-tax funds, you may save both federal income taxes and FICA taxes.

To participate in the HSA Benefits, you must be an "HSA-Eligible Individual." This means that you are eligible to contribute to an HSA under the requirements of Code § 223 and that you have elected qualifying High Deductible Health Plan coverage offered by the Employer and have not elected any disqualifying non- High Deductible Health Plan coverage offered by the Employer. ("High Deductible Health Plan" means the high deductible health plan offered by your Employer that is intended to qualify as a high deductible health plan under Code § 223(c)(2), as described in materials that will be provided separately to you by the Employer.) If you elect HSA Benefits, you will be required to certify that you meet all of the requirements under Code § 223 to be eligible to contribute to an HSA. These requirements include such things as not having any disqualifying coverage and you should be aware that coverage under a Spouse's plan could make you ineligible to contribute to an HSA.

In order to elect HSA Benefits under the Plan, you must establish and maintain an HSA outside of the Plan with an HSA trustee/custodian and you must provide sufficient identifying information about your HSA to facilitate the forwarding of your pre-tax Salary Reductions through the Employer's payroll system to your designated HSA trustee/custodian.

## **HSA Q-2. What is my "HSA"?**

The HSA is not an employer-sponsored employee benefit plan it is an individual trust or custodial account that you open with an HSA trustee/custodian to be used primarily for reimbursement of "eligible medical expenses" as set forth in Code § 223. Your HSA is administered by your HSA trustee/custodian. Consequently, an HSA trustee/custodian, not the Employer, will establish and maintain your HSA. Your Employer's role is limited to allowing you to contribute to your HSA on a pre-tax Salary-Reduction basis. The HSA trustee/custodian will be chosen by you, as the Participant, and not by the Employer. Your Employer may, however, limit the number of HSA providers to whom it will forward pretax Salary Reductions, a list of whom will be provided upon request. Any such list of HSA trustees/custodians, however, shall be maintained for administrative simplification and shall not be an endorsement of any particular HSA trustee/custodian. Your Employer has no authority or control over the funds deposited in your HSA.

The Plan Administrator will maintain records to keep track of HSA contributions that you make via pre-tax Salary Reductions, but it will not create a separate fund or otherwise segregate assets for this purpose.

## **HSA Q-3. What are the maximum HSA Benefits that I may elect under the Cafeteria Plan?**

Your annual contribution for HSA Benefits is equal to the annual benefit amount that you elect (for example, if a \$2,000 annual benefit amount is elected for 2010, then the annual contribution amount is also \$2,000). The amount you elect must not exceed the statutory maximum amount for HSA contributions applicable to your High Deductible Health Plan coverage option (i.e., single or family) for the calendar year in which the contribution is made. (Note: The statutory limits for 2015 are \$3,350 for single and \$6,650 for family. The statutory limits for 2016 are \$3,350 for single and \$6,750 for family.) An additional catch-up contribution of up to \$1,000 may be made if you are age 55 or older.

In addition, the maximum annual contribution shall be: (a) reduced by any matching (or other) Employer contribution made on your behalf (there are currently no such Employer contributions (other than pre-tax Salary Reductions) made under the Plan); and (b) pro-rated for the number of months in which you are an HSA-Eligible Individual.

Note that if you are an HSA-Eligible Individual for only part of the year but you meet all of the requirements under Code § 223 to be eligible to contribute to an HSA on December 1, you may be able to contribute up to the full statutory maximum amount for HSA contributions applicable to your coverage option (i.e., single or family). However, any contributions in excess of your annual contribution under the Plan for HSA benefits (as described above), but not in excess of the applicable full statutory maximum amount, must be made outside the Plan. In addition, if you do not remain eligible to contribute to an HSA under the requirements of Code § 223 during the following year, the portion of HSA contributions attributable to months that you were not actually eligible to contribute to an HSA will be includible in your gross income and subject to a 10% penalty (exceptions apply in the event of death or disability).

#### **HSA Q-4. How are my HSA Benefits paid for under the Cafeteria Plan?**

When you complete the Salary Reduction Agreement, you specify the amount of HSA Benefits that you wish to pay for with your salary reduction. From then on, you make a contribution for such coverage by having that portion deducted from each paycheck on a pre-tax basis (generally an equal portion from each paycheck or an amount otherwise agreed to or as deemed appropriate by the Plan Administrator).

For example, suppose that you have elected to contribute up to \$2,000 per year for HSA Benefits and that you have chosen no other benefits under the Cafeteria Plan. If you pay all of your contributions, then our records would reflect that you have contributed a total of \$2,000 during the Plan Year. If you are paid biweekly, then our records would reflect that you have paid \$76.92 (\$2,000 divided by 26) each pay period in contributions for the HSA Benefits that you have elected. Such contributions will be forwarded to the HSA trustee/custodian (or its designee) within a reasonable time after being withheld.

The Employer makes no contribution to your HSA and your Employer has no authority or control over the funds deposited in your HSA.

#### **HSA Q-5. Will I be taxed on the HSA Benefits that I receive?**

You may save both federal income taxes and FICA taxes by participating in the Cafeteria Plan. However, very different rules apply with respect to taxability of HSA Benefits than for other Benefits offered under this Plan. For more information regarding the tax ramifications of participating in an HSA as well as the terms and conditions of your HSA you may want to refer to the communications materials provided by your HSA trustee/custodian as well as IRS Publication 969 ("Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans").

The Employer cannot guarantee that specific tax consequences will flow from your participation in the Cafeteria Plan. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to determine the tax treatment of HSA Benefits. Remember that the Plan Administrator is not providing legal advice. If you need an answer upon which you can rely, you may wish to consult a tax advisor.

**HSA Q-6. Who can contribute to an HSA under the Cafeteria Plan?**

Only Employees who are HSA-Eligible Individuals can participate in the HSA Benefits. An HSA-Eligible Individual means an individual who meets the eligibility requirements of Code § 223 and who has elected qualifying High Deductible Health Plan coverage offered by the Employer and who has not elected any disqualifying non-High Deductible Health Plan coverage. The terms of the High Deductible Health Plan that has been selected by your Employer will be further described in materials that will be provided separately to you by the Employer.

**HSA Q-7. Can I change my HSA Contribution under the Cafeteria Plan?**

Unlike the other benefits offered under the Cafeteria Plan, you may increase, decrease, or revoke your HSA contribution election at any time during the plan year for any reason by submitting an election change form to the Plan Administrator (or to its designee). Your election change will be prospectively effective on the first day of the month following the month in which you properly submitted your election change. Your ability to make pre-tax contributions under this Plan to the HSA identified above ends on the date that you cease to meet the eligibility requirements.

**HSA Q-8. Where can I get more information on my HSA and its related tax consequences?**

For details regarding your rights and responsibilities with respect to your HSA (including information regarding the terms of eligibility, what constitutes a qualifying High Deductible Health Plan, contributions to the HSA, and distributions from the HSA), please refer to your HSA trust or custodial agreement and other documentation associated with your HSA and provided to you by your HSA trustee/custodian. You may also want to review IRS Publication 969 ("Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans").