

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**ALLIANZ INDEX ADVANTAGE<sup>®</sup> VARIABLE ANNUITY**

**INDIVIDUAL FLEXIBLE PURCHASE PAYMENT VARIABLE AND INDEX-LINKED DEFERRED ANNUITY CONTRACT**

**Issued by**

**ALLIANZ LIFE<sup>®</sup> VARIABLE ACCOUNT B (the Separate Account) and**

**ALLIANZ LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA (Allianz Life, we, us, our)**

This Statement of Additional Information (SAI) is incorporated by reference into the prospectus that has been filed as Part A of the Registration Statement. This SAI should be read in conjunction with the prospectus. Definitions of capitalized terms can be found in the glossary of the prospectus. The prospectus is incorporated in this SAI by reference.

The prospectus for the Contract concisely sets forth information that a prospective investor ought to know before investing. For a copy of the Contract's prospectus, call or write us at:

**Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America**

P. O. Box 561

Minneapolis, MN 55440-0561

(800) 624-0197

Dated: May 1, 2020

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Allianz Life as Custodian</b> .....	<b>3</b>	Income Tax Withholding .....	10
<b>Legal Opinions</b> .....	<b>3</b>	Multiple Contracts.....	11
<b>Distributor</b> .....	<b>3</b>	Partial 1035 Exchanges .....	11
<b>Administrative Service Fees</b> .....	<b>3</b>	Assignments, Pledges and Gratuitous Transfers.....	11
<b>Federal Tax Status</b> .....	<b>4</b>	Death Benefits .....	11
Annuity Contracts in General.....	4	Spousal Continuation and the Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).....	11
Taxation of Annuities in General .....	4	Federal Estate Taxes .....	12
Qualified Contracts .....	4	Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax.....	12
Purchasing a Qualified Contract .....	6	Foreign Tax Credits .....	12
Distributions – Qualified Contracts .....	6	Possible Tax Law Changes .....	12
Distributions – Non-Qualified Contracts.....	9	<b>Annuity Payments</b> .....	<b>13</b>
Required Distributions .....	9	Annuity Payment Options.....	13
Diversification .....	10	<b>Appendix – Death of the Owner and/or Annuitant</b> .....	<b>14</b>
Owner Control.....	10		
Contracts Owned by Non-Individuals .....	10		
Annuity Purchases by Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Corporations .....	10		

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## ALLIANZ LIFE AS CUSTODIAN

Allianz Life does not have a separate custodian for the assets owned through the Separate Account. Most mutual fund shares are not in certificated form, and as such, Allianz Life in effect acts as self-custodian for the non-certificated shares we own through the Separate Account.

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## LEGAL OPINIONS

Stewart D. Gregg, Senior Securities Counsel of Allianz Life, has provided legal advice on certain matters in connection with the issuance of the Contracts.

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## DISTRIBUTOR

Allianz Life Financial Services, LLC (ALFS), a wholly owned subsidiary of Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America, acts as the distributor of the contracts.

ALFS sells annuity contracts issued by Allianz Life primarily through “wholesaling,” in which ALFS sells contracts through a large group of mostly non-affiliated broker/dealer firms. Currently, ALFS has agreements with approximately 670 retail broker/dealers to sell its contracts.

We pay commissions for Contract sales. ALFS passes through most of the commissions it receives to the selling firms. ALFS received commissions for contracts issued under Allianz Life Variable Account B in the following amounts during the last three calendar years:

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount of Commissions Paid to ALFS</b>	<b>Aggregate Amount of Commissions Retained by ALFS After Payments to Selling Firms</b>
2017	\$230,415,545.81	\$0
2018	\$221,519,279.49	\$0
2019	\$284,788,589.36	\$0

As described in the prospectus, ALFS may pay marketing support payments to certain third-party firms for marketing our contracts. Currently, ALFS makes marketing support payments to approximately 57 broker-dealer firms and 1 Insurance Agency. These payments vary in amount. In 2019, the five firms receiving the largest payments, ranging from \$813,265.66 to \$8,093,011.32, are listed below. In addition, ALFS may make marketing support payments to investment advisory firms marketing the Contract.

### **Firm Name**

LPL Financial  
Wells Fargo Advisors – Wealth (ISG)  
Wells Fargo Advisors (PCG)  
Royal Alliance  
Woodbury Financial Services, Inc.

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## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE FEES

Allianz Life contracts with Tata Consultancy Services (Tata) to perform certain administrative services as described in prospectus section 11, Other Information – Administration/Allianz Service Center. Allianz Life paid Tata the following amounts for these services during the last three calendar years:

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Total Paid to Tata</b>
2017	\$1,621,903
2018	\$1,450,101
2019	\$1,548,030

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## FEDERAL TAX STATUS

*NOTE: The following description is based upon our understanding of current federal income tax law applicable to annuities in general. We cannot predict the probability that any changes in such laws will be made. Purchasers are cautioned to seek competent tax advice regarding the possibility of such changes. We do not guarantee the tax status of the Contracts. Purchasers bear the complete risk that the Contracts may not be treated as “annuity contracts” under federal income tax laws. It should be further understood that the following discussion is not exhaustive and that special rules not described herein may be applicable in certain situations. Moreover, no attempt has been made to consider any applicable state or other tax laws.*

### ANNUITY CONTRACTS IN GENERAL

Annuity contracts are a means of setting aside money for future needs – usually retirement. Congress recognized the importance of saving for retirement and provided special rules in the Internal Revenue Code (Code) for annuities.

These rules generally provide that you will not be taxed on any earnings on the money held in your annuity until you take the money out. This is called tax deferral. There are different rules regarding how you will be taxed, depending upon how you take the money out and whether the annuity is Qualified or Non-Qualified (see the following discussion in this section).

If you do not purchase the Contract under a tax qualified retirement plan, the Contract is referred to as a Non-Qualified Contract.

### TAXATION OF ANNUITIES IN GENERAL

Section 72 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code) governs taxation of annuities in general. An Owner is generally not taxed on increases in the value of a Contract until distribution occurs, either in the form of withdrawals or as Annuity Payments. For a full withdrawal (total redemption), a partial withdrawal, or a death benefit, the recipient is taxed on the portion of the payment that exceeds your investment in the Contract (often referred to as cost basis). For Non-Qualified Contracts, this cost basis is generally the Purchase Payments, while for Qualified Contracts there is generally no cost basis. The taxable portion of the withdrawal or annuity payment is taxed at ordinary income tax rates. For Non-Qualified Contracts, the taxable portion of a partial withdrawal is the portion of the payment considered to be gain in the Contract (for example, the difference, if any, between the Contract Value immediately before the withdrawal, unreduced by any withdrawal charges, and the Contract’s cost basis). For a full withdrawal, the amount received that exceeds the Contract’s cost basis is taxable. Withdrawals, whether partial or full, and annuity payments may also be subject to an additional federal tax equal to 10% of the taxable amount.

For Annuity Payments from Non-Qualified Contracts, the portion of each payment included in income is determined by an exclusion ratio. We determine the exclusion ratio for Annuity Payments by dividing the investment in the Contract (adjusted for any period certain or refund guarantee) by the expected return anticipated to be paid as Annuity Payments (which is determined by Treasury Regulations). We determine the amount of each Annuity Payment that is excluded from income by multiplying the Annuity Payment by the exclusion ratio. Annuity Payments received after the investment in the Contract has been recovered (for example, when the total of the amounts excluded from income equal the investment in the Contract) are fully taxable. The taxable portion of an Annuity Payment is taxed at ordinary income tax rates. Generally, Annuity Payments from Qualified Contracts are fully taxable. Annuity Payments that are qualified distributions from Roth IRAs are income tax free. Owners, Annuitants and Beneficiaries under the Contracts should seek competent financial advice about the tax consequences of any distributions.

We are taxed as a life insurance company under the Code. For federal income tax purposes, the Separate Account is not a separate entity from us, and its operations form a part of Allianz Life.

### QUALIFIED CONTRACTS

If you purchase the Contract as an IRA, Roth IRA or to fund a qualified retirement plan, the Contract is referred to as a Qualified Contract. Qualified Contracts are subject to special rules under the Code. Adverse tax consequences may result if contributions, distributions, and transactions in connection with the Qualified Contract do not comply with the law.

A Qualified Contract funded by an annuity does not provide any additional tax deferral. However, the Contract has features and benefits other than tax deferral that may make it an appropriate investment for an IRA or qualified retirement plan. You should consult your tax adviser regarding these features and benefits before purchasing a Qualified Contract.

## Types of Qualified Contracts

We may issue the following types of Qualified Contracts.

- IRA. Section 408 of the Code permits eligible individuals to maintain IRAs. IRA contributions are limited each year to the lesser of a dollar amount specified in the Code or 100% of the amount of earned income included in the Owner's income. Contributions may be tax deductible based on the Owner's income. The limit on the amount contributed to an IRA does not apply to distributions from certain other types of qualified retirement plans that are "rolled over" on a tax-deferred basis into an IRA. Purchasers of a Contract for use with IRAs have the right to revoke their purchase within seven days of the earlier of the establishment of the IRA or their purchase.
- Roth IRA. Section 408A of the Code permits certain eligible individuals to contribute to a Roth IRA. Contributions to a Roth IRA are limited each year to the lesser of a dollar amount specified in the Code or 100% of the amount of earned income included in the Owner's income. Contributions are also limited or prohibited if the Owner's income is above certain limits. Contributions must be made in cash or as a rollover or transfer from another Roth IRA.

Conversions to a Roth IRA from an IRA or other eligible qualified retirement plan are permitted regardless of an individual's income. A conversion to a Roth IRA results in a taxable event, but not a 10% additional federal tax for early withdrawal if certain qualifications are met (please consult your tax adviser for more details).

Distributions from a Roth IRA generally are not subject to income tax if the Roth IRA has been held for five years (starting with the year in which the first contribution is made to any Roth IRA) and the Owner satisfies a triggering event such as attaining age 59½, death, disability or a first time homebuyer (subject to a \$10,000 lifetime limit).

Distribution before satisfying the five year period or triggering event requirement may subject the distribution to ordinary income tax and the 10% additional federal tax for early withdrawal. Please be aware that each Roth IRA conversion has its own five year holding period requirement.

- Inherited IRA. The Code permits beneficiaries of investments that were issued under certain tax-qualified pension or retirement plans to directly transfer the death benefit from that investment into a variable annuity contract (Inherited IRA or Inherited Roth IRA Contract). Inherited IRA Contracts must satisfy the required minimum distribution rules that apply to a beneficiary.

Since you are the beneficiary of the previously held tax-qualified arrangement, you will become the Owner of the new Inherited IRA Contract. The ownership of this Contract must also reflect the name of the deceased previous owner. The purpose of the Inherited IRA Contract is to allow the Owner to change the funding vehicle and receive RMD payments instead of receiving a lump sum death benefit payment.

For a nonspouse beneficiary, the death benefit proceeds must be directly transferred into this Contract; they cannot be received by the nonspouse beneficiary and then applied to this Contract. A spouse beneficiary may receive the death benefit proceeds and then roll the funds into an Inherited IRA Contract within 60 days of receiving the proceeds. A beneficiary can apply the death benefit proceeds from multiple tax-qualified investments that were owned by the same decedent to the purchase of an Inherited IRA Contract. We will not accept any other forms of Purchase Payment on an Inherited IRA Contract. Once an Inherited IRA Contract is established, no further Purchase Payments can be made.

We do not allow any optional benefit that would provide guaranteed income for life or for a period longer than the Owner's life expectancy to be added to an Inherited IRA Contract.

- Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRA. Employers may establish Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRAs under Code Section 408(k) to provide IRA contributions on behalf of their employees. In addition to all of the general rules governing IRAs, such plans are subject to additional requirements and different contribution limits.

**Qualified Retirement Plans: Pension and Profit-Sharing Plans.** A qualified plan is a retirement or pension plan that meets the requirements for tax qualification under the Code. Sections 401(a) and 401(k) of the Code permit employers, including self-employed individuals, to establish various types of retirement plans for employees. These retirement plans may permit the purchase of the Contracts to provide benefits under the plan. Contributions to the plan for the benefit of employees are not included in the gross income of the employee until distributed from the plan. The tax consequences to participants may vary, depending upon the particular plan design. However, the Code places limitations and restrictions on all plans, including on such items as: amount of allowable contributions; form, manner and timing of distributions; transferability of benefits; vesting and nonforfeitability of interests; nondiscrimination in eligibility and participation; and the tax treatment of distributions and withdrawals. Participant loans are not allowed under the Contracts purchased in connection with these plans.

If the Contract is an investment for assets of a qualified plan under Section 401 of the Code, the plan is both the Owner and the Beneficiary. The authorized signatory or plan trustee for the plan must make representations to us that the plan is qualified under the Code on the Issue Date and is intended to continue to be qualified for the entire Accumulation Phase of the Contract, or as long as the qualified plan owns the Contract. The qualified plan may designate a third party administrator to act on its behalf. All tax reporting is the responsibility of the plan. In the event the qualified plan instructs us to roll the plan assets into an IRA for the Annuitant under this Contract, we change the qualification type of the Contract to an IRA and make the Annuitant the Owner. The qualified plan is responsible for any reporting required for the rollover transactions out of the plan. We are responsible for any reporting required for the Contract as an IRA.

Purchasers of Contracts for use with pension or profit-sharing plans should obtain competent tax advice as to the tax treatment and suitability of such an investment. We may choose not to allow pension or profit-sharing plans to purchase this Contract.

## **PURCHASING A QUALIFIED CONTRACT**

The Contract is designed to be used under various types of qualified plans. Because of the minimum Purchase Payment requirements, these Contracts may not be appropriate for some periodic payment retirement plans. Taxation of participants in each Qualified Contract varies with the type of plan and terms and conditions of each specific plan. Owners, Annuitants and Beneficiaries are cautioned that benefits under a Qualified Contract may be subject to the terms and conditions of the plan regardless of the terms and conditions of the Contracts issued pursuant to the plan. Some retirement plans are subject to distribution and other requirements that are not incorporated into our administrative procedures. We are not bound by the terms and conditions of such plans to the extent such terms conflict with the terms of a Contract, unless we specifically consent to be bound. Owners, participants and Beneficiaries are responsible for determining that contributions, distributions and other transactions with respect to the Contracts comply with applicable law.

The tax rules regarding qualified plans are very complex and have differing applications, depending on individual facts and circumstances. Each purchaser should obtain competent tax advice before purchasing a Contract issued under a qualified plan.

On July 6, 1983, the Supreme Court decided in *Arizona Governing Committee v. Norris* that optional annuity benefits provided under an employer's deferred compensation plan could not, under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, vary between men and women. The Contracts sold by us in connection with qualified plans may utilize annuity tables that do not differentiate on the basis of sex.

Generally, Contracts issued pursuant to qualified plans are not transferable except upon withdrawal or annuitization. Various penalty and excise taxes may apply to contributions or distributions made in violation of applicable limitations. Furthermore, certain withdrawal penalties and restrictions may apply to withdrawals from Qualified Contracts.

## **DISTRIBUTIONS – QUALIFIED CONTRACTS**

Distributions from Qualified Contracts are subject to ordinary income tax. Special rules may apply to withdrawals from certain types of Qualified Contracts, including Roth IRAs. You should consult with your qualified plan sponsor and tax adviser to determine how these rules affect the distribution of your benefits.

Section 72(t) of the Code provides that any amount received under a Qualified Contract, which is included in income, may be subject to an additional federal tax. The amount of the additional federal tax is equal to 10% of the amount that is included in income. Some distributions will be exempt from the additional federal tax. There is an exception to this 10% additional federal tax for:

- 1) distributions made on or after the date you (or the Annuitant as applicable) reach age 59½;
- 2) distributions following your death or disability (or the Annuitant as applicable) (for this purpose disability is as defined in Section 72(m)(7) of the Code);
- 3) distributions paid in a series of substantially equal payments made annually (or more frequently) for your life (or life expectancy) or joint lives of you and your designated Beneficiary;
- 4) distributions made to you after separation from service after reaching age 55 (does not apply to IRAs);
- 5) distributions made to you to the extent such distributions do not exceed the amount allowed as a deduction under Code Section 213 for amounts paid during the tax year for medical care;
- 6) distributions made on account of an IRS levy upon the Qualified Contract;
- 7) distributions from an IRA for the purchase of medical insurance (as described in Section 213(d)(1)(D) of the Code) for you and your spouse and dependents if you have received unemployment compensation for at least 12 weeks (this exception will no longer apply after you have been re-employed for at least 60 days);
- 8) distributions from an IRA made to you, to the extent such distributions do not exceed your qualified higher education expenses (as defined in Section 72(t)(7) of the Code) for the tax year;
- 9) distributions from an IRA which are qualified first-time homebuyer distributions (as defined in Section 72(t)(8) of the Code);
- 10) distributions made to an alternate Payee pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order (does not apply to an IRA);
- 11) distributions made to a reservist called to active duty after September 11, 2001, for a period in excess of 179 days (or for an indefinite period), from IRAs or amounts attributable to elective deferrals under a 401(k) plan made during such active period; and
- 12) distributions made during the payment period starting on the birth of a child or the finalization of an adoption (up to \$5,000).

With respect to (3) above, if the series of substantially equal periodic payments is modified before the later of the Annuitant attaining age 59½ or the close of the five year period that began on the date the first payment was received, then the tax for the year of the modification is increased by the 10% additional federal tax, plus interest for the tax years in which the exception was used. A partial withdrawal taken after a series of substantially equal periodic payments has begun will result in the modification of the series of substantially equal payments and therefore will result in the imposition of the 10% additional federal tax and interest for the period as described above. You should obtain competent tax advice before you take any partial withdrawals from your Contract. Adding Purchase Payments to a Contract that is making substantially equal periodic payments will also result in a modification of the payments.

For 2020 only, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, permits corona-virus related distributions from Qualified Contracts and IRAs up to an aggregate amount of \$100,000. This type of distribution is an exception to the 10% federal additional tax. To qualify for the distribution, generally you, your spouse, or dependent must have been diagnosed with the virus, or you were affected economically in certain ways because of the virus. The tax associated with the distributions may be paid ratably over three years, beginning with the 2020 tax year. The CARES Act also allows you to recontribute the amount you withdrew to an eligible retirement plan (to which you can make a rollover contribution) in one or more payments within three years.

Distributions from a Qualified Contract must commence no later than the required beginning date. For Roth IRAs, no distributions are required during the Owner's lifetime. For IRAs other than Roth IRAs, the required beginning date is April 1 of the calendar year following the year in which you attain age 72 (or age 70 ½ if you reached this age prior to January 1, 2020). Under a qualified plan, the required beginning date is generally April 1 of the calendar year following the later of the calendar year in which you reach age 72 (or age 70 ½ if you reached this age prior to January 1, 2020) or retire. The CARES Act also waived RMD for 2020. There is also no RMD required for an individual who reached age 70 ½ in 2019 and did not have the RMD distributed in 2019.

Generally, RMDs must be made over a period not exceeding the life or life expectancy of the individual or the joint lives or life expectancies of the individual and his or her designated Beneficiary. If the RMDs are not made, a 50% additional



federal tax is imposed as to the amount not distributed. If you are attempting to satisfy these rules through partial withdrawals, the present value of future benefits provided under the Contract may need to be included in calculating the amount required to be distributed.

**Inherited IRA Contracts.** The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement (SECURE) Act (contained within the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act enacted December 20, 2019) made significant changes to the payment options available to beneficiaries of IRA owners who die on or after January 1, 2020. With some exceptions, these IRA beneficiaries must receive their entire death benefit by December 31 following the tenth anniversary of the IRA owner's death.

The payments options for beneficiaries of IRA contracts differ depending on several factors, including whether a beneficiary is an Eligible Designated Beneficiary (EDB). An EDB includes any beneficiary of the deceased IRA owner who at time of death is: 1) the surviving spouse, 2) not more than ten years younger than the IRA owner, 3) a minor child of the IRA owner, 4) chronically ill, or 5) disabled. EDB status is determined at the IRA owner's death.

If you are an EDB, then you can begin RMD payments based on your single life expectancy ("stretch payments") in the year following the deceased owner's death. You must begin to receive these RMD payments by December 31 of the year following the deceased owner's death (but see the exception for a spouse beneficiary below). If you are an EDB that elected to receive payments over your life expectancy, once you die, then your beneficiary must receive their entire death benefit by December 31 following the tenth anniversary of your death.

For a minor child beneficiary, the payments based on life expectancy may continue only until the minor child reaches the age of majority. The minor child beneficiary must receive their entire death benefit by December 31 following the tenth anniversary of reaching the age of majority.

If you were the spouse beneficiary of the deceased owner's IRA contract and your spouse had not yet reached the date at which he/she was required to begin receiving RMD payments (treating a Roth IRA as a traditional IRA for this purpose only), then you can wait to begin receiving RMD payments until the year that your spouse would have reached age 72. Alternatively, if the deceased owner had already reached the date at which he/she was required to begin receiving RMD payments, you must begin to receive these RMD payments by December 31 of the year following the deceased owner's death.

If you are a designated beneficiary (generally an individual), but are not an EDB, the entire death benefit must be distributed by December 31 after the tenth anniversary of the IRA owner's death. If you die before the end of the ten year period and the entire death benefit has not been distributed, your beneficiary must receive the entire death benefit by the same date you would have been required to receive the death benefit.

If the beneficiary of the IRA is a trust, current Treasury Regulations provide "see-through" treatment for trusts that meet certain requirements. If such treatment applies, the beneficiary of the trust, rather than the trust itself will be treated as having been designated as beneficiaries of the IRA for purposes of determining the distribution period for RMD payments. Due to the changes made by SECURE, there is uncertainty regarding which distribution options are available when a trust is the beneficiary of an IRA. Clarification of situations involving trust beneficiaries is expected to be provided when the Treasury Department releases applicable regulations. Individuals are encouraged to seek guidance from their own tax professional or legal counsel to determine how these new rules apply to their particular situation.

If the IRA beneficiary is not a "designated beneficiary" (e.g., beneficiary is an estate, charity, or a trust that does not meet the requirements for "see-through" treatment), then the payment options are unchanged by the SECURE Act. If the IRA owner had not yet reached the date at which he/she was required to begin receiving RMD payments (treating a Roth IRA as a traditional IRA for this purpose only), then these IRA beneficiaries must receive their entire death benefit by December 31 following the fifth anniversary of the IRA owner's death. Alternatively, if the deceased owner had already reached the date at which he/she was required to begin receiving RMD payments, these IRA beneficiaries can begin RMD payments based on the single life expectancy of the owner in the year of the deceased owner's death, reduced by one. These beneficiaries must begin to receive these RMD payments by December 31 of the year following the deceased owner's death.

The SECURE Act impacts situations when the IRA owner died before January 1, 2020 and the beneficiary had elected stretch payments. In this situation, the stretch payments can continue to the beneficiary, but once that beneficiary dies, the successor beneficiary must receive any remaining death benefit by December 31 following the tenth anniversary of the original beneficiary's death.



The SECURE Act may limit the annuitization options that a beneficiary may elect at the IRA owner's death to comply with the new death benefit payment rules. Also, if an IRA owner elected an annuitization option and then dies, action may be needed by the beneficiary if any remaining annuity payments do not comply with the new death benefit payment rules for a beneficiary.

## **DISTRIBUTIONS – NON-QUALIFIED CONTRACTS**

You, as an individual Owner, generally will not be taxed on increases in the value of the Contract until an actual or deemed distribution occurs – either as a withdrawal or as Annuity Payments.

Section 72 of the Code governs treatment of distributions. When a withdrawal from a Non-Qualified Contract occurs, the amount received will generally be treated as ordinary income subject to tax up to an amount equal to the excess (if any) of the Contract Value immediately before the distribution over your investment in the Contract (generally, the Purchase Payments or other consideration paid for the Contract, reduced by any amount previously distributed from the Contract that was not subject to tax) at that time. In the case of a full withdrawal under a Non-Qualified Contract, the amount received generally will be taxable only to the extent it exceeds your investment in the Contract.

If you annuitize the Contract, different rules apply. Periodic installments (for example, Annuity Payments) scheduled to be received at regular intervals (for example, monthly) after you annuitize the Contract should be treated as annuity payments (and not withdrawals) for tax purposes. A portion of each Annuity Payment may be treated as a partial return of your Purchase Payment and will not be taxed. The remaining portion of the payment will be treated as ordinary income. How the Annuity Payment is divided between taxable and non-taxable portions depends upon the period over which we expect to make the payments. Once we have paid your total Purchase Payment(s), the entire Annuity Payment is taxable as ordinary income.

Section 72 of the Code further provides that any amount received under an annuity contract, which is included in income, may be subject to an additional federal tax. The amount of the additional federal tax is equal to 10% of the amount that is included in income. Some distributions will be exempt from the additional federal tax. There is an exception to this 10% additional federal tax for amounts:

- 1) paid on or after you reach age 59½;
- 2) paid after you die;
- 3) paid if you become totally disabled (as that term is defined in Section 72(m)(7) of the Code);
- 4) paid in a series of substantially equal payments made annually (or more frequently) for your life (or life expectancy) or joint lives of you and your designated Beneficiary;
- 5) paid as annuity payments under an immediate annuity; or
- 6) that come from Purchase Payments made before August 14, 1982.

With respect to (4) above, if the series of substantially equal periodic payments is modified before the later of your attaining age 59½ or the close of the five year period that began on the date the first payment was received, then the tax for the year of the modification is increased by the 10% additional federal tax, plus interest, for the tax years in which the exception was used. A partial withdrawal taken after a series of substantially equal periodic payments has begun will result in the modification of the series of substantially equal payments and therefore will result in the imposition of the 10% additional federal tax and interest for the period as described above. Adding Purchase Payments to a Contract that is making substantially equal periodic payments will also result in a modification of the payments.

## **REQUIRED DISTRIBUTIONS**

Section 72(s) of the Code requires that, to be treated as an annuity contract for federal income tax purposes, a Non-Qualified Contract must contain certain provisions regarding distributions when an Owner dies. Specifically, Section 72(s) requires that: (a) if an Annuitant dies on or after you annuitize the Contract, but before distribution of the entire Contract's interest, the entire Contract's interest must be distributed at least as rapidly as under the distribution method being used as of the Annuitant's date of death; and (b) if any Owner (or the Annuitant if the Owner is a non-individual) dies before you annuitize the Contract, the Contract's entire interest must be distributed within five years after the Owner's date of death. These requirements are satisfied as to any part of an Owner's interest that is payable to, or for the benefit of, a designated Beneficiary and distributed over the designated Beneficiary's life, or over a period not extending beyond that Beneficiary's life expectancy, provided that distributions begin within one year of the Owner's death. The designated Beneficiary refers

to an individual designated by the Owner as a Beneficiary and to whom ownership of the Contract passes by reason of death. However, if the designated Beneficiary is the deceased Owner's surviving spouse, the surviving spouse can continue the Contract as the new Owner.

Non-Qualified Contracts contain provisions that are intended to comply with these Code requirements.

Other rules may apply to Qualified Contracts.

## **DIVERSIFICATION**

Code Section 817(h) and accompanying Treasury Department Regulations imposes diversification standards on the assets underlying variable annuity contracts. The Code provides that a variable annuity contract cannot be treated as an annuity contract for any period during which its investments are not adequately diversified as required by the United States Treasury Department. If the Contract no longer qualifies as an annuity contract, you would be subject to federal income tax each year with respect to Contract earnings accrued. We intend that all variable investment options be managed by the investment advisers so that they comply with these diversification standards.

## **OWNER CONTROL**

The Treasury Department has indicated that the diversification regulations do not provide guidance regarding the circumstances in which an Owner's control of the Separate Account's investments may cause the Owner to be treated as the owner of the Separate Account's assets, which would cause the Contract to lose its favorable tax treatment. In certain circumstances, variable annuity contract owners have been considered for federal income tax purposes to be the owners of the separate account's assets, due to their ability to exercise investment control over those assets. In this case, the contract owners have been currently taxed on income and gains attributable to the variable account assets. There is little guidance in this area and some of our Contract's features, such as the flexibility of an Owner to allocate Purchase Payments and transfer amounts among the Variable Options have not been explicitly addressed in published rulings. While we believe that the Contracts do not give Owners investment control over Separate Account assets, we reserve the right to modify the Contracts as necessary to prevent an Owner from being treated as the owner of the Separate Account assets.

## **CONTRACTS OWNED BY NON-INDIVIDUALS**

When a Non-Qualified Contract is owned by a non-individual (other than a trust holding the Contract as an agent for an individual), the Contract is not generally treated as an annuity for tax purposes. This means that the Contract may not receive the benefits of tax deferral and Contract earnings may be taxed as ordinary income every year.

## **ANNUITY PURCHASES BY NONRESIDENT ALIENS AND FOREIGN CORPORATIONS**

The preceding discussion provides general information regarding federal income tax consequences to Owners that are U.S. citizens or residents. Owners that are not U.S. citizens or residents are generally subject to 30% federal withholding tax on distributions, unless a lower treaty rate applies. In addition, Owners may be subject to state and/or municipal taxes and taxes that may be imposed by the Owners' country of citizenship or residence. Prospective purchasers are advised to consult with a qualified tax adviser regarding U.S. state, and foreign taxation with respect to an annuity contract purchase. We currently do not issue Contracts to nonresident aliens or foreign entities (such as corporations and trusts).

## **INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING**

Any part of a distribution that is included in the Owner's gross income is subject to federal income tax withholding. Generally, we withhold amounts from periodic payments at the same rate as wages, and we withhold 10% from non-periodic payments. However, in most cases, you may elect not to have taxes withheld or to have withholding done at a different rate.

Certain distributions from retirement plans qualified under Code Section 401, that are not directly rolled over to another eligible retirement plan or IRA, are subject to a mandatory 20% federal income tax withholding. The 20% withholding requirement generally does not apply to:

- a series of substantially equal payments made at least annually for the life or life expectancy of the participant or joint and last survivor expectancy of the participant and a designated Beneficiary, or for a specified period of ten years or more; or
- required minimum distributions; or
- any part of a distribution not included in gross income (for example, returns of after-tax contributions); or
- hardship withdrawals.

Participants should consult a tax adviser regarding withholding requirements.

## **MULTIPLE CONTRACTS**

Code Section 72(e)(12) provides that multiple Non-Qualified deferred annuity contracts issued within the same calendar year to the same owner by one company or its affiliates are treated as one annuity contract for purposes of determining a distribution's tax consequences. This treatment may result in adverse tax consequences, including more rapid taxation of distributions from combined contracts. For purposes of this rule, contracts received in a Section 1035 exchange are considered issued in the year of the exchange. You should consult a tax adviser before purchasing more than one Non-Qualified Contract in any calendar year period.

## **PARTIAL 1035 EXCHANGES**

Code Section 1035 provides that an annuity contract may be exchanged in a tax-free transaction for another annuity contract. Historically, it was presumed that only the exchange of an entire contract (as opposed to a partial exchange) would be accorded tax-free status. IRS guidance however, confirmed that the direct transfer of a part of an annuity contract into another annuity contract can qualify as a non-taxable exchange. IRS guidance provides that this direct transfer can go into an existing annuity contract as well as a new annuity contract. If you perform a partial 1035 exchange, please be aware that no distributions or withdrawals can occur from the old or new annuity contract within 180 days of the partial exchange, unless you qualify for an exception to this rule. IRS guidance also provides that certain partial exchanges may not qualify as tax-free exchanges. Therefore, Owners should consult their own tax advisers before partial exchanging an annuity contract.

## **ASSIGNMENTS, PLEDGES AND GRATUITOUS TRANSFERS**

Any assignment or pledge (or agreement to assign or pledge) the Contract Value is treated for federal income tax purposes as a full withdrawal.

The Contract will not qualify for tax deferral while the assignment or pledge is effective.

Qualified Contracts generally cannot be assigned or pledged. For Non-Qualified Contracts, the Contract's cost basis is increased by the amount includible as income with respect to such amount or portion, though it is not affected by any other aspect of the assignment or pledge (including its release). If an Owner transfers a Contract without adequate consideration to a person other than their spouse (or to a former spouse incidental to divorce), the Owner is taxed on the difference between his or her Contract Value and the Contract's cost basis at the time of transfer and for each subsequent year until the assignment is released. In such case, the transferee's investment in the Contract is increased to reflect the increase in the transferor's income.

The transfer or assignment of Contract ownership, the designation of an Annuitant, the selection of certain Annuity Dates, or a Contract exchange may result in other tax consequences that are not discussed here. An Owner should consult a tax adviser before requesting a transfer, assignment, or exchange.

## **DEATH BENEFITS**

Generally, any death benefit is taxable to the recipient as ordinary income. The rules governing the taxation of payments from an annuity contract generally apply to the payment of death benefits and depend on whether the death benefits are paid as a lump sum or as Annuity Payments.

## **SPOUSAL CONTINUATION AND THE FEDERAL DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT (DOMA)**

Before June 26, 2013, pursuant to Section 3 of DOMA, same-sex marriages were not recognized for purposes of federal law. On that date, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *United States v. Windsor* that Section 3 of DOMA is unconstitutional. Valid same-sex marriages are now recognized under federal law for tax purposes.

The IRS has clarified its position regarding when a same-sex marriage will be recognized for federal tax purposes. If a couple is married in a jurisdiction (including a foreign country) that recognizes same-sex marriage, that marriage will be recognized for all federal tax purposes regardless of the law in the jurisdiction where they reside. However, the IRS did not recognize civil unions and registered domestic partnerships as marriages for federal tax purposes. Depending on the state in which your Contract is issued, we may offer certain spousal benefits to same-sex civil union couples, domestic partners or spouses. You should be aware, however, that, if state law does not recognize the civil union or registered domestic partnership as a marriage, we cannot permit the surviving partner/spouse to continue the Contract within the meaning of the federal tax law.

Same-sex civil union couples, domestic partners and spouses should contact their financial professional and a qualified tax adviser regarding their personal tax situation, the implications of any Contract benefits based on a spousal relationship, and their partner's/spouse's rights and benefits under the Contract.

## **FEDERAL ESTATE TAXES**

While no attempt is being made to discuss the Contract's federal estate tax implications, an Owner should keep in mind the annuity contract's value payable to a Beneficiary upon the Owner's death is included in the deceased Owner's gross estate. Depending on the annuity contract, the annuity's value included in the gross estate may be the value of the lump sum payment payable to the designated Beneficiary, or the actuarial value of the payments to be received by the Beneficiary. Consult an estate planning adviser for more information.

## **GENERATION-SKIPPING TRANSFER TAX**

The Code may impose a "generation-skipping transfer tax" when all or part of an annuity contract is transferred to, or a death benefit is paid to, an individual two or more generations younger than the Owner. Regulations may require us to deduct this tax from your Contract, or from any applicable payment, and pay it directly to the IRS.

## **FOREIGN TAX CREDITS**

We may benefit from any foreign tax credits attributable to taxes paid by certain funds to foreign jurisdictions to the extent permitted under the federal tax law.

## **POSSIBLE TAX LAW CHANGES**

Although the likelihood of legislative or regulatory changes is uncertain, there is always the possibility that the Contract's tax treatment could change. Consult a tax adviser with respect to legislative or regulatory developments and their effect on the Contract.

We have the right to modify the Contract in response to legislative or regulatory changes that could otherwise diminish the favorable tax treatment that annuity owners currently receive. We make no guarantee regarding the tax status of any contract and do not intend the above discussion as tax advice.

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## ANNUITY PAYMENTS

We base Annuity Payments on your Contract Value. We guarantee the dollar amount of Annuity Payments (equal installments) and this amount does not change except as provided under Annuity Option 3. The Contract Value you apply to Annuity Payments is placed in our general account and does not participate in the Variable Options' performance. Annuity Payments are based on an interest rate and mortality table specified in your Contract. These rates are guaranteed and we cannot use lower rates.

Annuity Payments end upon the earliest of the following.

- Under Annuity Options 1 and 3, the death of the last surviving Annuitant.
- Under Annuity Options 2 and 4, the death of the last surviving Annuitant and expiration of the guaranteed period.
- Under Annuity Option 5, the death of the Annuitant and payment of any lump sum refund.
- When the Contract ends.

## ANNUITY PAYMENT OPTIONS

The Annuity Payment Options are briefly described in prospectus section 8 – The Annuity Phase, and we included additional information that you may find helpful here.

**Option 1. Life Annuity.** We make Annuity Payments during the life of the Annuitant, and the last payment is the one that is due before the Annuitant's death. If the Annuitant dies shortly after the Annuity Date, the Payee may receive less than your investment in the Contract.

**Option 2. Life Annuity with Payments Over 5, 10, 15 or 20 Years Guaranteed.** We make Annuity Payments during the life of the Annuitant. If the Annuitant dies before the end of the selected guaranteed period, we continue to make Annuity Payments to the Payee for the rest of the guaranteed period. If the Payee and Annuitant were the same person, we make payments to the Owner. If the Payee, Annuitant and Owner were the same person, we make payments to the Beneficiary(s). If the Annuitant dies after the selected guaranteed period, the last payment is the one that is due before the Annuitant's death.

**Option 3. Joint and Last Survivor Annuity.** We make Annuity Payments during the lifetimes of the Annuitant and the joint Annuitant. Upon the death of one Annuitant, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue during the lifetime of the surviving joint Annuitant, at a level of 100%, 75% or 50% of the previous amount, as selected by the Owner. Annuity Payments stop with the last payment that is due before the last surviving joint Annuitant's death. If both Annuitants die shortly after the Annuity Date, the Payee may receive less than your investment in the Contract.

**Option 4. Joint and Last Survivor Annuity with Payments Over 5, 10, 15 or 20 Years Guaranteed.** We make Annuity Payments during the lifetimes of the Annuitant and the joint Annuitant. Upon the death of one Annuitant, Annuity Payments continue to the Payee during the lifetime of the surviving joint Annuitant at 100% of the amount that was paid when both Annuitants were alive. However, if both joint Annuitants die before the end of the selected guaranteed period, we continue to make Annuity Payments to the Payee for the rest of the guaranteed period. If the Payee and Annuitant were the same person, we make payments to the Owner. If the Payee, Annuitant and Owner were the same person, we make payments to the Beneficiary(s). If the Annuitant dies after the selected guaranteed period, the last payment is the one that is due before the Annuitant's death.

**Option 5. Refund Life Annuity.** We make Annuity Payments during the lifetime of the Annuitant, and the last payment is the one that is due before the Annuitant's death. After the Annuitant's death, the Payee may receive a lump sum refund. The refund is equal to the amount applied to this Annuity Option minus the total of all Annuity Payments made under this option.

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## APPENDIX – DEATH OF THE OWNER AND/OR ANNUITANT

The following tables are intended to help you better understand what happens upon the death of any Owner and/or Annuitant under the different portions of the Contract.

### UPON THE DEATH OF A SOLE OWNER

Action if the Contract is in the Accumulation Phase	Action if the Contract is in the Annuity Phase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We pay a death benefit to the Beneficiary unless the Beneficiary is the surviving spouse and continues the Contract. For a description of the death benefit and payout options, see prospectus section 9, Death Benefit - Death Benefit Payment Options During the Accumulation Phase.</li><li>• If the deceased Owner was a Determining Life and the surviving spouse Beneficiary continues the Contract:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– we increase the Contract Value to equal the Guaranteed Death Benefit Value if greater and available, and the death benefit ends,</li><li>– the surviving spouse becomes the new Owner,</li><li>– the Accumulation Phase continues, and</li><li>– upon the surviving spouse's death, his or her Beneficiary(s) receives the Contract Value.</li></ul></li><li>• If the deceased Owner was not the Determining Life the Traditional Death Benefit or Maximum Anniversary Value Death Benefit ends and the Beneficiary(s) receive the Contract Value.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Beneficiary becomes the Payee. If we are still required to make Annuity Payments under the selected Annuity Option, the Beneficiary also becomes the new Owner.</li><li>• If the deceased was not an Annuitant, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue. No death benefit is payable.</li><li>• If the deceased was the only surviving Annuitant, Annuity Payments end or continue as follows.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Annuity Option 1 or 3, payments end.</li><li>– Annuity Option 2 or 4, payments end when the guaranteed period expires.</li><li>– Annuity Option 5, payments end and the Payee may receive a lump sum refund.</li></ul></li><li>• If the deceased was an Annuitant and there is a surviving joint Annuitant, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue during the lifetime of the surviving joint Annuitant. No death benefit is payable.</li></ul>



## UPON THE DEATH OF A JOINT OWNER

### Action if the Contract is in the Accumulation Phase

- The surviving Joint Owner is the sole primary Beneficiary. If the Joint Owners were spouses there may also be contingent Beneficiaries.
- We pay a death benefit to the surviving Joint Owner unless he or she is the surviving spouse and continues the Contract. For a description of the death benefit and payout options, see prospectus section 9, Death Benefit - Death Benefit Payment Options During the Accumulation Phase.
- If the deceased Joint Owner was a Determining Life and the surviving spouse/Joint Owner continues the Contract:
  - we increase the Contract Value to equal the Guaranteed Death Benefit Value if greater and available, and the death benefit ends,
  - the surviving spouse/Joint Owner becomes the new Owner,
  - the Accumulation Phase continues, and
  - upon the surviving spouse/Joint Owner's death, his or her Beneficiary(s) receives the Contract Value.
- If the deceased Joint Owner was not a Determining Life the Traditional Death Benefit or Maximum Anniversary Value Death Benefit ends and the Beneficiary(s) receive the Contract Value.

### Action if the Contract is in the Annuity Phase

- If we are still required to make Annuity Payments under the selected Annuity Option, the surviving Joint Owner becomes the sole Owner.
- If the deceased was not an Annuitant, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue. No death benefit is payable.
- If the deceased was the only surviving Annuitant, Annuity Payments end or continue as follows.
  - Annuity Option 1 or 3, payments end.
  - Annuity Option 2 or 4, payments end when the guaranteed period expires.
  - Annuity Option 5, payments end and the Payee may receive a lump sum refund.
- If the deceased was an Annuitant and there is a surviving joint Annuitant, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue during the lifetime of the surviving joint Annuitant. No death benefit is payable.

## UPON THE DEATH OF THE ANNUITANT DURING THE ANNUITY PHASE AND THERE IS A SURVIVING JOINT ANNUITANT

- Only Annuity Options 3 and 4 allow joint Annuitants. Under Annuity Options 3 and 4, Annuity Payments to the Payee continue during the lifetime of the surviving joint Annuitant and, for Annuity Option 4, during any remaining guaranteed period of time.
- No death benefit is payable.
- If we are still required to make Annuity Payments under the selected Annuity Option and the deceased was a sole Owner, the Beneficiary becomes the new Owner.
- If we are still required to make Annuity Payments under the selected Annuity Option and the deceased was a Joint Owner, the surviving Joint Owner becomes the sole Owner.