

YOUR RIGHTS UNDER ERISA

It is the policy of the **Avaya Participating Companies** to provide meaningful benefits -- above and beyond your paycheck. Part of this additional protection is provided through the Vision Care Plan. You are entitled to certain rights and protection under ERISA. These rights are described in this section.

Right to Receive Information About the Plan and Its Benefits

It is your right to know about your benefits. Therefore, in addition to this SPD describing your benefits under the Vision Care Plan, you will have the opportunity to obtain a summary of the Vision Care Plan's annual financial report. You also may examine all Vision Care Plan documents governing the Vision Care Plan and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed with the U.S. Department of Labor. These documents are available for you to examine without charge in the Plan Administrator's office.

You can receive a copy of any of these documents, for a reasonable charge, by making a written request to the Plan Administrator.

You also have the right to:

- Continue vision coverage for yourself, spouse, or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Vision Care Plan as a result of a qualifying event under **COBRA**. You or your dependents will have to pay for such coverage. Review this summary plan description and the documents governing the Vision Care Plan for the rules governing your **COBRA** continuation rights.
- Reduce or eliminate exclusionary periods of coverage for pre-existing conditions under your group health plan, if you have creditable coverage from another plan. You should be provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from your group health plan or health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under that plan, when you become entitled to elect **COBRA** continuation coverage, when your **COBRA** continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage, or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage. Without evidence of creditable coverage, you may be subject to a pre-existing condition exclusion for 12 months (18 months for late enrollees) after your enrollment date in your coverage.

Prudent Action by Plan Fiduciaries

You also have the right to expect the fiduciaries -- the people responsible for the operation of the Vision Care Plan -- to act prudently and in the best interest of those who participate as a whole. The Vision Care Plan's fiduciaries must act in the best interest of all Vision Care Plan **participants**.

No one, including an **Avaya Participating Company** may dismiss you or discriminate against you to prevent you from obtaining benefits or exercising any of your rights under ERISA.

Enforce Your Rights

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. Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce your ERISA rights. For instance:

- If you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) from the Plan Administrator and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials – unless the materials were not sent for reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator.
- If you have a claim for benefits that is denied or ignore – in whole or in part – after going through the appeals procedures, you may file suit in a state or federal court.
- If you disagree with the Plan’s decision or lack of response to your request concerning the qualified status of a **qualified medical child support order (QMCSO)**, you may file suit in federal court.
- If it should happen that the Vision Care Plan fiduciaries misuse the Vision Care Plan’s money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your ERISA rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in federal court.
- If you file suit against the Vision Care Plan, the court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees – if, for example, it finds your claim is frivolous.

If You Have Questions

For answers to questions about the Vision Care Plan, contact the **Claims Administrator** or the Plan Administrator (see “Important Contacts”). If you have any questions about this statement of your rights, or about your rights under ERISA, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA), listed in your telephone directory; or contact the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, U.S. Department of Labor, EBSA, 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 EBSA or visit the EBSA Web site at www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through the EBSA Web site.)