# Salus Solutions, LLC



Welcome to AlwaysCare!We are pleased to offer vision benefits for you and your family effective January 1, 2010.

**Did you know?** Daily computer use, stress-related issues and extended work hours increase your vision problems? In fact, nearly 90% of those who use a computer for at least three hours a day suffer vision problems associated with computer eye strain. Routine vision care is critical to being your best both personally and professionally.

Selection of Providers: You have access to our national network of Providers. The Provider panel contains independent optometrists and ophthalmologists, as well as regional and national retail chains (including Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Costco\*, Pearle Vision, Target, Sears, JCPenney and EyeMasters). Members may choose different providers for vision exam and materials purchases. Out-of-network benefits are available, but members receive the best value in-network. Visit <a href="https://www.AlwaysCareBenefits.com">www.AlwaysCareBenefits.com</a> or call 888-729-5433, Ext. 2013 for a list of participating providers. Most participating providers (excluding Wal-Mart, Sam's Club & Costco\*) offer discounts on items purchased after the insurance benefit has been used.

### **Covered Benefits:**

**Exam:** Each member is entitled to a comprehensive vision exam. A exam co-pay applies and is outlined in the grid below.

**Materials:** Each member may purchase eyewear in the form of an eyeglass frame and lenses <u>or</u> contact lenses with this plan. Purchases are subject to benefit frequencies and co-pays. Plan features include:

- Frame Benefit: Members may choose any frame within a provider's collection, subject to the retail frame allowance listed below. If the cost is greater than the plan's benefits, the member is responsible for the difference.
- Eyeglass Lens Benefit: Members always receive new lenses of the highest quality and craftsmanship. Standard plastic (CR-39 Plastic Material) single vision, bifocal and trifocal lenses are generally covered in full and plan allowances are listed below for specialty lenses. If the cost is greater than the plan's benefits, the member is responsible for the difference.
- Contact Lens Benefit: Members electing contact lenses instead of
  glasses may choose to apply the contact lens retail allowance to
  any lenses in the provider's collection. If the cost is greater than the
  plan's benefits, the member is responsible for the difference. The
  contact allowance will apply to the retail cost of contact lenses and
  to any professional fitting fee charged by the provider.
- Laser Vision Correction: Members receive a discount on Lasik or PRK prices with participating surgery providers across the country (not an insured benefit).

Benefit Frequencies:	
Examination	Once Every 12 Months
Eyeglass Lenses	Once Every 12 Months
Frames	Once Every 12 Months
Contact Lenses	Once Every 12 Months
Monthly Rates*:	
Employee Only	\$4.88
Employee + Spouse	\$9.76
Employee + Child(ren)	\$8.16
Employee + Family	\$13.64

\*Rates valid from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012

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Vision Care Services	All Participating Providers	Out-of-Network Allowance
Exam	\$10 Co-pay	Up to \$35
Materials	\$25 Co-pay	
Standard Plastic Lenses: Single Vision Bifocal Trifocal Lenticular Progressive	Covered by Co-pay Covered by Co-pay Covered by Co-pay \$80 allowance \$70 allowance	Up to \$25 Up to \$40 Up to \$50 Up to \$50 Up to \$40
Frames:  Members choose from any frame available at provider locations.	\$120 allowance (\$94 at Wal-Mart, Sam's Club and Costco*)	Up to \$50
Contact Lenses**: (Includes fit, follow-up and materials) Elective Medically Necessary	Up to \$120 allowance Up to \$210 allowance	Up to \$100 Up to \$210

<sup>\*</sup>Special payment and reimbursement terms apply for material purchases at Costco.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Contact lenses are in lieu of eyeglass lenses and frames.

## Other Always Vision SM Specifications

**Dependent Children:** Dependent age guidelines vary by state. Please refer to your policy certificate or contact customer service at 888-729-5433, Ext. 2013.

**Services Not Listed:** If you expect to require a vision service not included on this brochure, it may still be covered. Please contact customer service at 1-888-729-5433, Ext. 2013 to confirm your exact benefits.

This is a primary vision care benefit and is intended to cover only eye examinations and corrective eyewear. Medical or surgical treatment of eye disease or injury is not provided under this plan. Coverage may not exceed the lesser of actual cost of covered services and materials or the limits of the policy.

Covered materials that are lost or broken will be replaced only at normal service intervals indicated in the Plan Design; however, these materials and any items not covered below may be purchased at Preferred Pricing from a Participating Provider. In addition, benefits are payable only for expenses incurred while the Group and individual Member coverage is in force.

### This plan will not cover:

- Orthoptics or vision training and any supplemental testing; Plano (non- prescription) lenses; or two pair of eyeglasses in lieu of bifocals or trifocals;
- · Medical or surgical treatment of the eyes;
- An eye exam or corrective eye wear required by an employer as a condition of employment;
- Any injury or illness covered under Workers' Compensation or similar law, or which is work related;
- Plain or prescription sunglasses or tinted lenses, and no-line bifocals and blended lenses (subject to allowance);
- Sub-normal vision aids;
- Services rendered or materials purchased outside the U.S. or Canada, unless: the insured resides in the U.S. or Canada, and the charges are incurred while on a business or pleasure trip;
- Charges in excess of Usual and Customary for services and materials;
- Experimental or non-conventional treatments or devices;
- Safety eyewear;
- Spectacle lens styles, materials, treatments or "add-ons" not shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

#### **Laser Vision Correction Network**

Membership provides access to preferred pricing. Transactions are handled directly between Members and Providers. Refractive surgery is an elective procedure and may involve potential risks to patients. This is not an insured benefit. AlwaysCare Benefits, Inc. cannot and does not guarantee the outcome of any refractive surgical procedure or a total elimination of the need for glasses or contacts. Providers may not be available in all metropolitan areas. Visit www.AlwaysCareBenefits.com for a list of participating laser vision correction providers.

### **NEW!** AlwaysHearing<sup>sm</sup> Savings Plan

- Available at no cost to all AlwaysCare Members
- Material discounts of between 30%-60% on all major name brand hearing instruments and accessories
- Battery program discounts up to 40% off retail pricing

To access call 1-888-729-5433, Ext. 2013

Underwritten by: National Guardian Life Insurance Company, Madison, WI
Administered by: AlwaysCare Benefits, Inc.
(a Starmount Life Insurance company), The Starmount Building,8485 Goodwood Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806; PH: 1-888-729-5433, ext 2013.
Policy Forms: Vision – NVIGRP2002 and NVIGRP 05/07
National Guardian Life Insurance Company is not affiliated with the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
a/k/a The Guardian or Guardian Life