



**Companion**Plus™ **Terms and Conditions** 

# CompanionPlus Terms and Conditions

# 1. Insuring Agreement

In return for receiving **your** payment of premium when due, **we** will provide insurance for **your pet(s)** as explained in the below **policy** terms and conditions. This agreement also includes the **declarations page**, **your** application and any endorsements.

#### 2. What is Covered

After satisfying the annual deductible indicated on the **declarations page**, **we** will reimburse **you our** coinsurance share of **covered expenses** for **your pet's accidents** and **illnesses** including but not limited to:

- a. Laboratory Tests
- b. X-rays, ultrasound, MRI and CAT Scan
- c. Surgery
- d. Hospitalization
- e. Prescription medication that is prescribed by a veterinarian
- f. Chemotherapy and radiation treatment
- g. Extractions to permanent broken teeth due to an accident
- h. Euthanasia (when advised by a veterinarian to alleviate suffering)

# 3. Per Incident Limits

Covered expenses for incidents with an onset date within the current policy term will be reimbursed up to the per incident limit indicated on the declarations page.

Covered expenses for incidents with an onset date falling under a previous policy term will be reimbursed up to the applicable remaining incident limit from that previous policy.

For any reimbursement to be made for a **covered expense**, an active **policy** with no gap in coverage must be annually renewed and continuously in-force. The maximum amount **we** will reimburse for all **covered incidents** is the annual **policy** limit shown on the **declarations page**.

# 4. Waiting Periods for Coverage

There is a fourteen (14) day **waiting period** per pet from the effective date of coverage before we will cover an **illness**, except for IVDD where there is a twelve (12) month **waiting period** per pet.

There is a three (3) day **waiting period** per pet from the effective date of coverage before we will cover an **accident**, except for cruciate ligament related conditions where there is a twelve (12) month **waiting period** per pet.

**Waiting periods** are waived for subsequent renewals provided **you** maintain an active **policy**, with no gap in coverage, annually renewed and continuously in-force.

#### 5. Exclusions

- a. Veterinary exams, unless you purchase coverage through our Veterinary Exam endorsement.
- b. Inherited and Congenital conditions, unless you purchase coverage through our Inherited Plus endorsement.
- c. Pre-existing conditions

- d. Treatment or diagnostics for cruciate ligament **injuries** over a \$1,500 lifetime limit for each leg. This includes any associated meniscal injury or another condition secondary to cruciate ligament injury, tear or rupture.
- e. **Treatments** or diagnostics of an **illness**, **injury**, **or service** excluded by the **policy** as well as secondary complications from such excluded illness, injury, or service.
- f. Intentional, neglectful, or preventable acts, caused by you or a member of your household, that result in injury or illness to your pet.
- g. Elective, cosmetic, grooming, bathing and nail clipping.
- h. Fees to diagnose or treat any illness or injury related to breeding, pregnancy, whelping, and nursing.
- i. The cost to spay or neuter **your pet** regardless of the reason.
- j. **Preventive care** including but not limited to wellness examinations, flea control, worm medication, vaccinations and dental care, unless **you** purchase coverage through **our** applicable Wellness endorsement.
- k. All diets, pet food, and nutritional supplements, whether prescribed or not.
- I. Alternative treatments including but not limited to holistic, acupuncture, chiropractic, herbal and homeopathic.
- m. Any diagnostics or treatment associated with anal glands.
- n. More than one **illness** or **injury** per **policy period** arising from a repetitive and specific activity or similar activity that has previously occurred and displayed the propensity for this activity to happen again and cause **injury** or **illness** to **your pet**. (Examples include but are not limited to: foreign body ingestion, dog fights, and toxin ingestion)
- o. Diagnostics or **treatment** for internal or external parasites including but not limited to fleas, heartworms, and roundworms.
- p. Illnesses for which a vaccine is available, unless your veterinarian has recommended that **your pet** not receive such vaccine. This includes but is not limited to; Canine and Feline Distemper, Parvovirus, Parainfluenza, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Calicivirus, Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, Feline Infectious Peritonitis, Bordetella, Rabies and Feline Leukemia.
- q. Injuries caused by your pet being attacked or attacking another pet in your household.
- r. Experimental, investigational treatment, organ and tissue transplants, or prosthesis.
- s. Sales tax, medical waste, veterinary administrative, shipping, and postage fees.
- t. House calls, travel time, boarding and/or transportation.
- u. Treatment or diagnostics related to behavior.
- v. Any conditions related to teeth including but not limited to gingivitis, periodontal disease, root canals, caps and crowns, vital pulpotomies, deciduous teeth, diseased or abscessed teeth (except **medically necessary** extractions for permanent broken teeth due to an accident).
- w. Conditions resulting from activities related to training or participating in track or sled racing, guard security, working, or organized fighting.
- x. **Injury** or **illness** caused directly or indirectly by: a) enemy attack by armed forces, with or without a state of war, including actions taken in resisting the attack; b) insurrection; c) rebellion; d) revolution; e) invasion; f) civil war; g) illegal acts; h) usurped power; i) nuclear radioactive contamination; j) pandemic conditions.
- y. The cost of **treatment** or diagnostics for bilateral conditions presenting on one side of the body, if that condition was a **pre-existing condition** on the other side of the body. (For example, but not limited to, if a dog has been diagnosed with a cruciate tear in his left leg before the end of the **waiting period**, a subsequent cruciate tear in his right leg shall be considered **pre-existing**).
- z. Conditions Always Excluded:
  - a. Obesity if not due to an underlying medical condition
  - b. Osteoarthritis unless you purchase coverage through our Inherited Plus endorsement
  - c. Spondylosis
  - d. Luxating patella
  - e. Diabetes unless you purchase coverage through our Inherited Plus endorsement

## 6. Annual Deductible and Coinsurance

# **Annual Deductible**

Is the amount you pay for covered expenses for each pet during the policy period before we reimburse you our share of co-insurance. Your annual deductible is shown on the declarations page.

#### Co-insurance

Is your portion of **covered expenses** after the **annual deductible** is met. **Your co-insurance** amount is shown on the **declarations page**.

## 7. General Conditions

- a) Territory: This policy only applies to losses that occur and are treated within the United States, its territories and possessions, and Canada. No coverage exists for an incident or treatment that occurs outside of the above territories.
- b) Other Insurance: If a claim arises under this **policy** and there is any other insurance providing coverage to **your pet(s)**, this **policy** is excess insurance. This **policy** will only apply to any claim costs once all other valid and collectible insurance has been exhausted, and then only for the excess amount not covered by the other insurance, always subject to the terms and conditions of this **policy**.
- c) Your pet(s) must receive an annual physical exam, as well as all prescribed vaccines as advised by your veterinarian. The policyholder must follow and carry out the veterinarian's advice and show reasonable care to protect the pet from harm.
- d) Ownership: You are the owner of your pet(s).
- e) Transferability: Coverage for your pet(s) will cease if ownership is changed by agreement or law.
- f) Conformity to State Statutes: If any **policy** wording conflicts with the laws of the state in which this **policy** is issued, the wording will be changed to meet the laws of that state.
- g) Unpaid Premiums: any premium that is due and unpaid may be deducted from a subsequent claim payment.
- h) Continuing coverage for a covered **incident** from a preceding policy is subject to the terms and conditions of this **policy**. Except that per **incident** limits for any **covered expense** under a previous **policy** is never reset at renewal.
- i) By accepting the terms of this insurance as evidenced by the payment of premiums, it is agreed that this **policy**, and endorsements and any notices may be delivered to you by electronic mail via the internet at the company's option.
- j) If you wish to make changes to your coverage, please contact us. Any change is subject to underwriting and our approval. Certain changes may result in a new enrollment, which would terminate your existing policy.

## 8. Cancellation and Nonrenewal

- a) You may cancel this **policy** at any time by mailing or delivering to **us** advance written notice of cancellation or **your** intent to not renew.
- b) We may cancel this policy by mailing or delivering to you written notice of cancellation at least:
  - i. Ten (10) days or as applicable by state law before the date of cancellation if **we** cancel for nonpayment of premium.
  - ii. Thirty (30) days or as applicable by state law before the date of cancellation if **we** cancel for any other reason.
- c) If **you** fail to make a monthly premium payment before the cancellation date **we** will cancel **your policy** back to the date to which your premiums were pre-paid.
- d) We will mail or deliver our notice of cancelation to your last mailing address known to us.
- e) Notice of cancellation will state the effective date of cancellation. Insurance coverage under this **policy** will end on that date.
- f) We may elect to non-renew this policy on the expiration date shown on the declarations page. We may do so by mailing to you written notice at least forty five (45) days or as applicable by state law prior to the expiration date of your policy.
- g) If notice is mailed, proof of mailing will be sufficient proof of notice.
- h) Return of Premium: If either you or we cancel the policy, we will refund you any unearned premium.
- i) **We** will automatically renew **your policy** at expiration, unless **you** are otherwise notified of a nonrenewal. **We** may change the premium, coinsurance amounts, annual deductibles and **policy** terms and conditions at renewal. **You** will be notified of all changes in writing at least 45 days before the renewal date.

- j) Misrepresentation and Fraud: This **policy** may be voided:
  - i. If **you** have concealed or misrepresented any material fact or circumstance concerning this insurance or the **pet(s)** covered.
  - ii. In the case of fraud or attempted fraud by **you** concerning any matter relating to this insurance or the **pet(s)** covered.
- k) If **you** are not satisfied with the initial **policy**, you have thirty (30) days from the effective date to cancel and receive **your** premium in full as long as **you** have not filed a claim. This money back arrangement is not available on renewals.

### 9. Claim Conditions

- a) In the event **you** incur a loss **you** must do the following things:
  - i. Notify **us** by filing a <u>completed</u> claim form with **us** as soon as practicable; but not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the first date of **treatment**. Claims filed after 180 days will be denied.
  - ii. Provide to **us** invoices from **your** treating **veterinarian** listing the services performed, products provided and the itemized charges for **treatment**, including packages and/or discounts.
  - iii. Provide to **us** the name, address and signature of the treating **veterinarian** on the claim form.
  - iv. Provide to **us** a payment receipt when submitting a handwritten invoice. If payment receipt is not provided the invoice will be verified with **your veterinarian** prior to claim processing.
- b) We have the right to ask for information from any veterinarian that has ever seen your pet(s) in order to assess its health.
- c) **We**, at our expense, have the right to have any covered **pet(s)** examined by a **veterinarian** of **our** choice as often as reasonably necessary while a claim is pending.
- d) If **you** disagree with the decision made by **us you** have the right to an appeal. Any claim submitted for reconsideration must be submitted within sixty days (60) of the decision and must be in writing on a Claims Redetermination Request Form. If the appeal is regarding a disagreement over medical facts, rather than policy coverage or terms, we may at our own discretion consult with an impartial **veterinarian** selected by us, who is independent and not controlled by us, to conduct a review. Any such redetermination by the **veterinarian** will be binding on us.
- e) Claims under investigation are pended as ineligible for payment until the investigation is complete.
- f) If we pay a claim contrary to this policy's terms and conditions, that payment does not waive our rights to apply those terms and conditions to any paid or any future claim. We also have the right to stop payment or recover from you any claim amount incorrectly paid.
- g) Fraudulent Claims: If **you** or anyone acting on **your** behalf submits a fraudulent claim, all pending and future benefits under the **policy** will be lost with respect to **your policy**.
- h) Action Against **Us**: No action can be taken against **us** unless **you** have complied with all of the terms and conditions of this **policy** and ninety one (91) days after proof of loss is filed and the amount of loss is determined as provided in this **policy**. **You** will have thirty six (36) months from the date of loss to initiate action for resolution through arbitration.
- i) It is hereby mutually agreed that any dispute or difference of agreement arising between the company and the **policyholder** with respect to this agreement shall be submitted to arbitration under rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA). The place of Arbitration will be Raleigh, North Carolina unless the laws of the state of the insured dictate otherwise.
- j) Cooperation Clause: You must cooperate with us in the investigation or settlement of any claim.
- k) Any **illness** or **injury** where a final diagnosis has not been made will be pended as ineligible until **we** receive written documentation from **your veterinarian** with the definitive diagnosis.

#### 10. Definitions

Below are definitions of bold print words used in the policy.

a. Accident is a sudden, unpreventable event that causes physical injury to your pet.

- b. **Bilateral Condition** is a condition or disease that affects both sides of the body (example: cruciate ligament, eyes, ears, limbs, and lameness).
- Congenital Condition means an illness, disease or condition that was present at or dated from the birth of your pet.
- d. Covered Expenses means the reasonable and customary charges for medically necessary treatments provided by your veterinarian during the policy period that are eligible for reimbursement under this policy.
- e. Declarations Page is the page sent to you with specific information about the policy.
- f. Illness means physical disease, sickness, infection, condition or failure which is not caused by injury.
- g. **Incident** means a specifically identifiable **illness** or **injury**. Recurring, related and/or chronic conditions shall be deemed one **incident**. Some **incidents** are subject to caps.
- h. Inherited means an illness whose presence is determined by genetic factors.
- i. Injury means physical damage caused by an accident.
- j. Medically Necessary means medical services, supplies or care provided to treat a covered pet which is:
  - i. consistent with symptoms or diagnosis
  - ii. accepted as good veterinary practice standards
  - iii. not for the ease or the request of the pet owner, veterinarian or other providers
  - iv. consistent with proper supply or level of services which can be safely provided to the pet
- k. **Medical Waste Fees** mean the charges associated with the disposal of medical waste, surgical or chemotherapeutical waste.
- Onset means the beginning or first appearance of the signs or symptoms of an illness, or injury.
- m. Pet(s) refers to the animal(s) listed on the declarations page.
- n. **Policy** means the terms and conditions and most recent **declarations page** which includes any forms and endorsements that apply.
- o. **Policy Period** means the time period specified on the **declarations page** beginning on the effective date and ending on the expiration date. All dates are as of 12:01 AM in the time zone of the **policyholder**.
- p. Pre-existing Condition means any illness or injury which occurred, reoccurred, existed, or showed symptoms whether or not diagnosed by a veterinarian, prior to the original effective date of the policy or during the waiting period.
- q. Prescription medication means any medicine that is dispensed only with a written prescription from a veterinarian.
- r. Preventative Care means treatment intended for the prevention of an illness.
- s. Reasonable and Customary Charges means typical fees or the cost that veterinarians charge in your geographic area based on available veterinary fee information and proprietary data.
- t. **Treatment** means any test, x-rays, medication, surgery, hospitalization, nursing and care provided or prescribed by a **veterinarian**.
- u. **Veterinarian** means a licensed physician for animals and a provider of veterinary medicine. **Veterinarian** shall not include **you** or a member of **your** immediate family.
- v. Waiting Period means a period of time specified in the policy that must pass before some or all of coverage begins. The waiting period applies to first year policy and any coverage increases, but does not apply to your annual renewal provided you maintain continuous coverage with us. The waiting period begins as of the coverage effective date of the policy
- w. We/Us/Our (also Insurer) means the company providing the insurance.
- x. You/Your (also Policyholder) means the person named in the declarations page.

# **Send Correspondence to:**

PetPartners, Inc. PO Box 37940 Raleigh, NC 27627-7940

The Company has caused this **policy** to be executed, attested and countersigned by an authorized representative of the Company.

Secretary,

President,