

Eligible Dependents

If you are eligible for Dependent Coverage, your eligible dependents include:

- your lawful spouse of the opposite sex or, effective September 1, 2014, your lawful spouse of the same sex; and
- your children who are under 26 years of age.

Your children include:

- your natural children;
- your legally-adopted children or those for whom adoption proceedings have been started and who have been placed in your home by a licensed placement agency for the purpose of adoption; and
- your step-children if the child's natural parent lives with you.

If a dependent was covered up to the date coverage would otherwise end because of reaching age 26, and if on that date the dependent:

- is incapable of self-support due to mental retardation or physical handicap which began before the child attained age 26,
- is dependent upon you for more than one-half of his or her financial support and maintenance, and
- resides with you permanently and regularly for more than one-half of each year or lives in a treatment center,

then that dependent will be covered for so long as the incapacity and dependency continue, but not beyond the date on which your coverage ends.

Legal documentation of your dependent's status, such as by an original registered marriage certificate, certified government-issued birth certificate or an adoption certificate naming you or your spouse as the child's parent, is required by the Benefits Fund Office.