



## Government & Hospital Markets

### Loan Policy Administration

#### Article I. Eligibility

**Section 1.01** Only active employees who participate in a deferred compensation plan or defined contribution plan that permits loans may request a loan. The participant must have a minimum vested account balance of \$5,000 if the plan is not governed by ERISA.

#### Article II. Minimum and maximum loan amounts

**Section 2.01** The minimum loan amount that a participant may request is \$2,500 for tax exempt non-ERISA plans.

**Section 2.02** The maximum loan amount that a participant may request is \$50,000 or 50% of the vested account balance – which ever is less. The \$50,000 maximum loan amount is reduced by the highest loan balance during the past 12 months minus the loan balance on the date a new loan is made.

**Section 2.03** If a participant has an outstanding loan through another qualified plan, 403(b) plan, or a 457 plan maintained by the same employer, the maximum loan amount available must be reduced by the highest outstanding loan balance during the past 12 months. The participant is responsible for ensuring that the aggregated loan amount on all plans sponsored by the same employer is the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the vested account balance.

#### Article III. Number of loans permitted

**Section 3.01** The number of loans a participant may have outstanding at one time is one and the loan repayments are to be submitted via payroll deduction.

**Section 3.02** The maximum number of loans a participant may have outstanding is one (1). If a participant has an outstanding loan and wishes to initiate another loan, the participant must first repay the current outstanding loan via cashiers check or money order.

#### Article IV. Cost

**Section 4.01** A loan setup and implementation fee may be assessed to the plan prior to loans being offered to participants. The loan setup fee may vary from plan to plan. The

implementation department will determine any applicable loan setup and implementation fee.

**Section 4.02** A loan origination fee in the amount of \$60.00 shall be deducted from the loan amount.

**Section 4.03** An administrative fee of \$35.00 per year/per loan, deducted quarterly at a rate of \$8.75 will be assessed to each participant's account.

**Section 4.04** If a participant requests their loan check to be sent express delivery, an additional \$25.00 charge will be deducted from the loan check amount.

## **Article V. Loan Initiation**

**Section 5.01** Great-West Retirement Services (GWRS) uses a one-step loan process. The loan process begins by the participant applying for a loan via paper, the Web site or KeyTalk® which combines the Promissory Note and Loan Check into one document, eliminating the step of returning the signed Promissory Note prior to issuing the Loan Check. By endorsing the check, the participant agrees to the terms of the Note and the repayment obligation.

**Section 5.02** Plans will be required to sign the Loan Administration Policy document prior to loans being made available. The signed Loan Administration Policy document will allow the participant to initiate and complete a loan request electronically without the plan's signature. If a paper application is used, the plan must sign each loan application submitted by its participants or the plan will be required to sign a letter of instruction authorizing the processing of loan applications without an authorized plan signature.

## **Article VI. Distribution of loan amount**

**Section 6.01** Loan distribution amounts will be prorated across all available money types as follows 1.non-fixed fund(s); 2.guaranteed Fund(s).

## **Article VII. Types of loans available**

**Section 7.01** A General Purpose Loan has a term of twelve to sixty (12-60) months. No reason or documentation (other than a signed promissory note) is required when a participant requests a General Purpose Loan. The interest rate for this type of loan is fixed for the life of the loan. The interest rate is the Prime Rate published in the Wall Street Journal on the first business day of the month before the loan is originated.

**Section 7.02** A Principal Residence Loan has a term of seventy-two to one hundred twenty (72-120) months. This loan must be utilized for the purchase of a primary residence ONLY. The interest rate is the Prime Rate published in the Wall Street Journal on the first business day of the month before the loan is originated.

## **Article VIII. Interest**

**Section 8.01** Interest paid on loans is not income tax deductible.

## **Article IX. Payment Requirements**

**Section 9.01** Scheduled payments must be made by payroll deduction or in some circumstances by cashier's check or bank money order. Loan repayments will be allocated to the participant's account according to current allocation percentages on ISIS. For payments for participants who leave employment, see Section 9.07 below.

**Section 9.02** Once a new loan has been initiated, the payroll department will be sent a report or an electronic file to begin loan payments. Loan repayments must begin on time or the loan payments will be in arrears. If loan payments are not caught up in time, the loan may default. Loan default results in adverse tax consequences to the participant.

### **Section 9.03 Basic Rules Regarding Loans to Ensure They Do Not Default**

- (a) Any amount paid out of a plan will be treated as a taxable distribution unless the plan loan rules under Code section 72(p) and the applicable Treasury regulations are followed.
- (b) Payments must be made in level amortized amounts and must be made at least quarterly.
- (c) Missed payments must be received prior to the end of the calendar quarter following the quarter in which the payment was missed.
- (d) If a participant fails to make a loan repayment on time, and the missed loan repayment(s) is/are not made by the end of the following calendar quarter (or within the plan's more restrictive cure period), the loan is in default and ceases to comply with section 72(p).
- (e) The entire outstanding loan balance plus accrued interest at the time of the default is taxable to the participant as a deemed distribution.
- (f) The plan loan rules under Code section 72(p) do not provide a mechanism to ignore missed payments or to reverse a loan that has already defaulted.

**Section 9.04** Loans are in arrears and delinquent when any payment is missed. A late loan payment notice will be issued after the end of the calendar quarter in which the payment is delinquent. If all missed payments are not made by the end of the calendar quarter after the calendar quarter in which a payment is first missed such that the loan is totally paid up to date, the loan will be in default. In that event, the entire outstanding loan balance, consisting of the missed payments, all accrued but unpaid interest and the remaining principal, will be reported to the IRS as taxable income on a Form 1099-R for the year in which the loan default occurs.

**Section 9.05** In addition, if a loan has not been fully repaid by the end of its term, the outstanding balance will be taxable and will be reported to the IRS on Form 1099-R as taxable income. There is no opportunity to cure a late payment once the term has expired. The payroll department will be notified of the final loan payment amount prior to the final payment due date.

**Section 9.06** If the participant has a loan that defaulted at any time in the past, their eligibility for a new loan is revoked.

**Section 9.07** Participants who leave service prior to the end of the loan term will have several options available to them. If they do nothing, at the end of the grace period they will have a "deemed distribution and any outstanding balance will become a taxable event in the year the grace period ends. They may request a loan payoff quote from Great-West pay of the remaining balance in full before the end of the grace period to avoid a "deemed distribution". They may request that Great-West convert their bi-weekly payroll deduction repayments to monthly payments with a coupon book. If they make all coupon payments timely they will not create a deemed distribution or incur a taxable event.

**Section 9.08** When a participant takes a leave of absence of not longer than 1 year, either without pay from the employer or at a rate of pay that is less than the amount of the installment payments required under the terms of the loan, the plan should provide leave of absence information for a leave start and stop dates. The loan may be reamortized when the participant returns from leave to pay the loan in full by the maturity date of the loan. The entire outstanding loan balance, including all accrued but unpaid interest, will be reamortized.

**Section 9.09** If the participant takes a military leave of absence, the interest rate on the loan will be reduced to 6%, during the period of military service provided the interest rate on the loan is greater than 6%. Loan payments must resume upon the participant's return from military leave. The term of the loan may be extended by the term of the military leave. The entire outstanding loan balance, including all accrued but unpaid interest, will be reamortized.

**Section 9.10** The participant's outstanding loan balance will be offset upon receiving any type of distribution after severance of employment. As required by federal tax regulations, a participant's defaulted loan will remain on the books until a qualifying event occurs, even though income has been reported to the IRS.

**Section 9.11** Partial lump sum loan repayments, via a cashier's check or money order, are permitted in order to catch up on a past-due amount or to reduce the principal amount of the loan. If a participant remits a partial payment, the loan payment amount will not change but the loan would be paid off earlier.

#### **Article X. Early Loan Payoff**

**Section 10.01** A loan can be paid in full at any time, in the form of a cashier's check or bank money order. The participant may obtain a loan payoff quote via KeyTalk®. The loan payoff quote is valid for 15 days from the date it is obtained.

#### **Article XI. Outstanding Loan at Death**

**Section 11.01** All outstanding loan principal and accrued interest shall be treated as a distribution from the plan when Great- West Retirement Services is notified of a participant's death. A deceased participant's loan may not be transferred or assumed by the participant's beneficiary(ies). If a participant's loan has not been repaid as of the date of the participant's death, any distributions made from the deceased participant's plan account will be made net of any outstanding loan obligations. The amount of the outstanding loan as of the participant's date of death will be tax reported as a distribution to the participant or to the participant's estate as applicable.

#### **Article XII. Future additions**

**Section 12.01** Future tax laws regarding plan loans will be incorporated into this loan policy and the Promissory Note.

#### **Article XIII. Enforcement**


**Section 13.01** Great-West Retirement Services is required to enforce these rules. The loan policy and loan administration procedures have been developed to comply with the requirements of Internal Revenue Code section 72(p) and the federal Treasury regulations thereunder, as amended from time to time.

**Section 13.02** No legal Advice. The terms and conditions of this loan policy administration constitute the Tulare County 457 Plan Administration's understanding of the law that permits the implementation of a loan program. For legal advice and tax consequences, participants must consult with a professional advisor.

---

The Plan Administrator/Employer hereby authorizes Service Provider to implement participant initiated loans based on the Loan Policy outlined above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Plan Administrator/Employer Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date