

# **Step Up Segment**

### **About Structured Capital Strategies PLUS®**

A tax-deferred variable annuity that offers you a way to save for retirement with a straightforward path through the ups and downs of the investment world. It's designed to help you protect against some loss and take advantage of market upside that tracks well-known benchmark indices, up to a performance cap.

#### How the Step Up Segment works<sup>1</sup>

The Step Up Segment is an option for putting Structured Capital Strategies PLUS® to work for you. When the benchmark index is up, you receive a guaranteed return that is equal to the Performance Cap Rate set when you invest. The same is true when the benchmark index is flat — when your chosen benchmark index is at 0% performance, you still receive the guaranteed return on the Segment Maturity Date. At the same time, downside protection built into the Step Up Segment creates a buffer against some loss. You can stay confident even when the benchmark index goes down, because you're protected against loss up to -10%.

## Let's look at a hypothetical example

**Assumption: 7% Performance Cap Rate** 

#### **Down market** Flat market **Up market** The index returns -12%. The index returns 0%. The index returns 4%. The Segment Buffer absorbs the first -10% Because the return is equal to 0%, Because the return is positive, you realize a of the loss, leaving you with only a -2% loss. you realize a 7% return, which 7% return, which is the Performance Cap Rate. is the Performance Cap Rate. 7% Performance Cap Rate **-12**% -2% -8% 0% **Initial Investment 7**% 11% -10% Segment Buffer Down market Up market The index returns -8%. The index returns 11%.

Because the gain is in excess of the Performance Cap Rate,

you realize a 7% return, which is the Performance Cap Rate.

The disclosure below applies to bank distribution entities.

The -10% Segment Buffer absorbs the full

loss, and you realize a 0% return.

INVESTMENT AND INSURANCE PRODUCTS ARE: • NOT FDIC INSURED • NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY • NOT A DEPOSIT OR OTHER OBLIGATION OF, OR GUARANTEED BY, THE BANK OR ANY OF ITS AFFILIATES • SUBJECT TO INVESTMENT RISKS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE LOSS OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT INVESTED

You are protected against some downside risk, but if the negative return is in excess of the Segment Buffer, there could be substantial loss of principal because you agree to absorb all losses to the extent they exceed the protection provided.

Hypothetical Index Return

Segment Return

This example is a hypothetical intended for illustrative purposes only and is not indicative of actual market, index, investment or financial product performance. Step Up Segments will generally have lower Performance Cap Rates than Annual Lock Segments of the same index. The example assumes the optional Return of Premium Death Benefit is not elected. Please note individuals cannot invest directly in an index.

#### Level of protection

-10% Buffer

#### **Growth potential**

**Predictable Performance Cap Rate**Set when you invest

## Zero explicit fees<sup>2</sup>

All the benefits of Structured Capital Strategies PLUS® are available to you with zero explicit fees. All costs related to administration, sales and contract are built into the way the performance cap and buffer work, so you'll never be charged an explicit fee and can keep more of your money working its hardest for you.

#### **Duration**

#### 1 year

Lets you recalibrate every year

If you're looking to invest 1 year at a time, with growth potential and built-in protection against losses up to -10%, the Step Up Segment may be the right fit for you.

- 1 May not be available in all firms and jurisdictions.
- 2 Expenses related to administration, sales and certain risks in the contract are factored into the Performance Cap Rate. As long as your money is invested in the Structured Investment Option to take advantage of the buffer against some loss and potential for growth up to the cap, you will not be charged additional fees. If you choose the optional Return of Premium Death Benefit, or invest your money in a Variable Investment Option, fees and charges will apply.

**Segment Buffer** — The portion of any negative index performance rate that the Segment Buffer absorbs on a Segment Maturity Date for a particular Segment. Any percentage decline in a Segment's Index Performance Rate in excess of the Segment Buffer reduces your Segment Maturity Value.

**Step Up Segment** — Any Segment belonging to a Segment Type whose name includes "Step Up." For Step Up Segments, the Segment Rate of Return is equal to the Performance Cap Rate if the index performance rate for that Segment is greater than or equal to zero on the Segment Maturity Date.

**Performance Cap Rate** — For Step Up Segments, the Performance Cap Rate is the Segment Rate of Return if the index performance rate for that Segment is greater than or equal to zero. The Performance Cap Rate is not an Annual Rate of Return.

Please note an annuity contract purchased to fund an IRA should be considered for the annuity's features and benefits other than tax deferral. For such cases, tax deferral is not an additional benefit for the annuity. You may also want to consider the relative features, benefits and costs of this annuity with any other investment that you may have in connection with your retirement plan or arrangement. Certain types of contracts and features may not be available in all jurisdictions. This flyer is not a complete description of the Structured Capital Strategies PLUS® variable annuity.

Variable annuities are sold by prospectus only, which contains more complete information about the policy, including risks, charges, expenses and investment objectives. You should review the prospectus carefully before purchasing a policy. Contact your financial professional for a copy of the current prospectus.

An annuity, such as Structured Capital Strategies PLUS®, should be considered a long-term investment product designed for retirement, providing the opportunity for growth potential through the accumulation of assets on a tax-deferred basis by investing in selected investment options. There are fees and charges associated with annuities. In essence, annuities are contractual agreements in which payment(s) are made to an insurance company, which agrees to pay out an income or a lump-sum amount at a later date. In addition, annuities are subject to market risk, including loss of principal in both the Variable Investment Options and Structured Investment Options. Withdrawals are subject to ordinary income and, if taken prior to age 59½, a 10% federal income tax penalty may apply.

**Transfers or withdrawals during a Segment:** The Segment Interim Value is the value of your investment prior to the Segment Maturity Date, and it may be lower than your original investment in the Segment even where the index is higher at the time of the transfer or withdrawal prior to maturity. A transfer or withdrawal from the Segment Interim Value may be lower than your Segment Investment and may be less than the amount you would have received had you held the investment until the Segment Maturity Date.

View the latest Performance Cap Rate at equitable.com/cap-rates. For more information, please visit equitable.com/scsapp.

The Return of Premium Death Benefit (ROP DB) is an optional rider that returns the sum of premiums adjusted pro rata for withdrawals. You cannot terminate the Return of Premium Death Benefit once you elect it. The death of the reference life on a contract determines when the ROP DB is payable. The reference life for the ROP DB is the original owner(s) (or annuitant, if applicable). The reference life will be set for the life of the contract at issue. For joint owner contracts, both spouses are reference lives, and the ROP DB is payable upon the death of the second spouse. After the death of the first spouse, the remaining reference life is the surviving spouse. The ROP DB fee is equal to an annual rate of 0.20% for all Segments within Structured Capital Strategies PLUS®. The optional ROP DB may not be available in all firms and jurisdictions.

All contract and rider guarantees, including optional benefits and any fixed subaccount crediting rates or annuity payout rates, are backed by the claims-paying ability of the issuing life insurance company. They are not backed by the broker/dealer from which this annuity is purchased, by the insurance agency from which this annuity is purchased or any affiliates of those entities, and none makes any representations or guarantees regarding the claims-paying abilities of Equitable Financial and Equitable America. Annuities contain certain restrictions and limitations. For costs and complete details, contact a financial professional.

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Idaho contract form #s: 2021SCSBASE-A(ID) and 2021SCSBASE-A(ID)-Z. All other states contract form #s: 2021SCSBASE-A, 2021SCSBASE-B, 2021SCSBASE-A-Z or 2021SCSBASE-B-Z and any state variations.

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