



#### CONTACT

Kay Spalding  
*Executive Director, Marketing*

Amalgamated Life Insurance Company  
333 Westchester Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10604  
T: 914 367 5826 F: 914 367 2826

kspalding@amalgamatedlife.com  
amalgamatedlife.com

## PRESS RELEASE

### Amalgamated Life Adds Vision Insurance to Its Voluntary Product Line-up

**White Plains, NY...September 24, 2012**

Amalgamated Life ([www.amalgamatedlife.com](http://www.amalgamatedlife.com)), a leading provider of life and health insurance, announced today that it is now offering vision insurance as a voluntary product. The vision insurance policy being offered by Amalgamated Life is underwritten by National Guardian Life, a national vision company, and is supported by the Avesis vision care network comprised of over 25,000 independent practitioners and commercial retail chains located across all 50 states.

By adding a vision insurance offering to their voluntary product line-up, Amalgamated Life is giving organizations a way to help their members maintain good vision and eye health, and reduce the risk of various conditions such as diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, cataracts, hypertension and other systemic diseases detected by comprehensive eye exams. Vision and eye health problems are the second most prevalent, chronic healthcare problem in the United States, affecting over 120 million people. Eye or vision-related problems such as eyestrain, headaches, blurred vision or irritated eyes are suffered by 75% of all employees who use a computer.

The vision insurance plan being offered by Amalgamated Life provides comprehensive eye examinations and early detection of diseases and medical conditions. Members receive a complete vision exam, a pair of spectacle lenses and a frame. Alternatively, there is an option for contact lenses whereby the insurance provides an allowance towards the purchase of contact lenses and professional fitting fees. In addition, members can elect an option for LASIK surgery to correct certain vision problems. They can select a LASIK surgeon from a directory of specialists offering a discount on the surgery of up to 25%. There are also savings of up to 20% off retail pricing from participating providers on other add-ons such as additional eyewear even if the member exhausts his/her covered benefits in a given plan period.

Industry research found that, when asked what their employees most wanted from their employer, vision care was the second highest cited request behind additional vacation days. While many employers cannot absorb the total costs of an employee's vision plan, they can provide a cost-effective option for vision care – a voluntary vision insurance plan for which the employee assumes all costs.

Amalgamated Life's voluntary vision insurance plan offers industry leading claims turnaround time, and an experienced, courteous Customer Service team, available from 7 AM to 8 pm, EST committed to the highest standards of responsiveness.

## **About Amalgamated Life**

Since its inception in 1943, Amalgamated Life has grown into a leading provider of high quality life and health insurance solutions. The Company's extensive portfolio features group life insurance products ranging from basic coverage, to accidental death and dismemberment, dependent life, retiree life and group term life. Additionally, the Company offers long- and short-term disability insurance, a suite of voluntary insurance products, and medical stop loss insurance. Amalgamated Life's proven track record is evidenced in its 36 consecutive A.M. Best "A" (Excellent) ratings attesting to its financially strong condition and excellent claims-paying ability. Amalgamated Life is a member of the Amalgamated Family of Companies which also includes: Amalgamated Agency, a property and casualty insurance brokerage; AliCare, a third-party administrator; AliCare Medical Management, a medical case management firm; AliComp, an Information Technology and data center outsourcing company; and AliGraphics, a printing and graphics firm.

For more information, visit: [www.amalgamatedlife.com](http://www.amalgamatedlife.com) or contact: [kspalding@amalgamatedlife.com](mailto:kspalding@amalgamatedlife.com).

## **About Avesis**

Founded in 1978, Avesis is a national leader in providing exceptional vision care benefits to millions of members. Avesis' clients include commercial, Medicaid and Medicare health plan sponsors, insurance carriers, unions and TPAs, as well as more than 7000 state and county municipalities, school districts, hospitals and employer groups of all sizes. Our robust networks include independent optometrists and ophthalmologists as well as regional and national retailers, give our members maximum choice and access to receive quality vision care.