

# The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company

## Separate Account A

### Units of Interest under Group Unit Purchase and Group Fixed and Variable Deferred Annuity Contracts

#### GUP and GTS-VA

#### Prospectus

May 3, 2021

Group Unit Purchase Contracts, or GUP, and Group Variable Annuity Deferred Contracts, or GTS-VA (the “Contracts”), consist of flexible and single Purchase Payment group fixed and variable deferred annuity contracts that are offered by The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company (“VALIC”) to Participants in certain employer sponsored qualified retirement plans. The Contracts may be available to you when you participate in a retirement program that qualifies for deferral of federal income taxes. The Contracts described in this prospectus were formerly offered through Separate Account One and Separate Account Two of VALIC.

The Contracts permit you to invest in and receive retirement benefits in the Fixed Account Option and the Variable Account Option described in this prospectus. The Variable Account Option invests in the Stock Index Fund, a separate portfolio of VALIC Company I.

Any guarantees under the Contract, including the death benefit, that exceed the value of your interest in the VALIC Separate Account A (“Separate Account”) are paid from our general account (and not the Separate Account). Therefore, any amounts that we may pay under the Contract in excess of your interest in the Separate Account are subject to our financial strength and claims-paying ability and our long-term ability to make such payments.

This prospectus provides information employers and Participants should know before investing in the Contracts and will help Participants make decisions for selecting various investment options and benefits. Please read and retain this prospectus for future reference.

A Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”), dated May 3, 2021, contains additional information about the Contracts and is part of this prospectus. For a free copy call 1-800-448-2542. The table of contents for the SAI is shown at the end of this prospectus. The SAI has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and is available along with other related materials at the SEC’s Internet web site (<http://www.sec.gov>).

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the shareholder reports for variable account options available under your Contract are no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports. Instead, the reports will be made available on a web site, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a web site link to access the report. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from VALIC electronically by contacting us at 1-800-448-2542 or logging into your account at VALIC Online at [www.aigrs.com](http://www.aigrs.com).

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform VALIC that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by contacting 1-866-345-5954 or visiting [FundReports.com](http://FundReports.com) and providing the 20-digit unique ID located above or below your mailing address. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all variable account options available under your Contract.

**Investment in the Contracts is subject to risk that may cause the value of the owner’s investment to fluctuate, and when the Contracts are surrendered, the value may be higher or lower than the Purchase Payments.**

**The SEC has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

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## Glossary of Terms

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Unless otherwise specified in this prospectus, the words “we,” “us,” “our,” “Company,” and “VALIC” mean The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company and the words “you” and “your” mean the Participant. Other specific terms we use in this prospectus are:

**Account Value** — the total sum of your Fixed Account Option and/or Variable Account Option that has not yet been applied to your Payout Payments.

**Annuitant** — the individual (in most cases, you) to whom Payout Payments will be paid.

**Assumed Investment Rate** — the rate used to determine your first monthly Payout Payment per thousand dollars of account value in your Variable Account Option.

**Beneficiary** — the individual designated to receive Payout Payments upon the death of the Annuitant.

**Business Day** — any weekday that the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open for trading. Normally, the NYSE is open Monday through Friday through 4:00 p.m. Eastern time (“Market Close”). On holidays or other days when the NYSE is closed, such as Good Friday, the Company is not open for business.

**Contract Owner** — the individual or entity to whom the Contract is issued. For a group Contract, the Contract Owner will be the employer purchasing the Contract for a retirement plan.

**Division** — the portion of the Separate Account invested in a particular Mutual Fund. Each Division is a sub-account of VALIC Separate Account A.

**Fixed Account Option** — an account that is guaranteed to earn at least a minimum rate of interest while invested in VALIC’s general account.

**Home Office** — located at 2929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas 77019.

**Mutual Fund or Fund** — the investment portfolio(s) of a registered open-end management investment company, which serves as the underlying investment vehicle for each Division represented in VALIC Separate Account A.

**Participant** — the individual (in most cases, you) who makes Purchase Payments or for whom Purchase Payments are made.

**Participant Year** — a 12-month period starting with the issue date of a Participant’s Contract certificate and each anniversary of that date.

**Payout Payments** — annuity payments withdrawn in a steady stream during the Payout Period.

**Payout Period** — the time when you begin to withdraw your money in Payout Payments. This may also be called the “Annuity Period.”

**Payout Unit** — a measuring unit used to calculate Payout Payments from your Variable Account Option. Payout Units measure value, which is calculated just like the Purchase Unit value for each Variable Account Option except that the initial Payout Unit includes a factor for the Assumed Investment Rate selected. Payout Unit values will vary with the investment experience of the VALIC Separate Account A Division.

**Proof of Death** — a certified copy of the death certificate, a certified copy of a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction as to death, a written statement by an attending physician, or any other proof satisfactory to VALIC.

**Purchase Payments** — an amount of money you or your employer pay to VALIC to receive the benefits of a Contract.

**Purchase Period** — the accumulation period or time between your first Purchase Payment and the beginning of your Payout Period (or surrender).

**Purchase Unit** — a unit of interest owned by you in your Variable Account Option.

**Systematic Withdrawals** — payments withdrawn on a regular basis during the Purchase Period.

**VALIC Separate Account A or Separate Account** — a segregated asset account established by VALIC under the Texas Insurance Code. The purpose of the VALIC Separate Account A is to receive and invest your Purchase Payments and Account Value in the Variable Account Option, if selected.

**Variable Account Option** — investment options that correspond to Separate Account Divisions offered by the Contracts.

## Fee Tables

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay when buying, owning, and surrendering the Contract. The first table describes the fees and expenses that you will pay at the time that you buy the Contract, surrender the Contract, or transfer cash value between investment options.

	GUP Contracts	GTS-VA Contracts
<i>Contract Owner/Participant Transaction Expenses</i>		
Maximum Sales and Administrative Charge (as a percentage of Purchase Payments)	5.00%	5.00%
Maximum Loan Application Fee (per loan)	\$60	\$60
State Premium Taxes (as a percentage of the amount annuitized)	0-3.5%	0-3.5%

The next table describes the fees and expenses that you will pay periodically during the time that you own the Contract, not including the Variable Account Option fees and expenses.

<i>Separate Account Annual Expenses</i> (as a percentage of average daily account value invested in the Separate Account)	GUP Contracts	GTS-VA Contracts
Mortality and Expense Risk Fee	1.00%	0.70% <sup>(1)</sup>
Total Separate Account Expenses <sup>(2)</sup>	1.00%	0.70%

(1) The Mortality and Expense Risk Fee may vary depending upon the total assets attributable to the GTS-VA Contracts but will never exceed 0.70%. See footnote

(2) below and "Fees and Charges — Separate Account Charges" for more information.

(2) The Company has agreed to a permanent guaranteed expense limitation on the Total Separate Account Expenses for the GUP Contracts and the GTS-VA Contracts. Pursuant to the expense limitation, the Company will limit the Total Separate Account Expenses to the extent necessary so that the sum of the Mortality and Expense Risk Fee and the Total Annual Mutual Fund Operating Expenses of the VALIC Company I Stock Index Fund does not exceed the following annual rates:

- For the GUP Contracts: 1.42% of total net assets in the Separate Account attributable to the GUP Contracts; and
- For the GTS-VA Contracts: 0.70% of the total net assets in the Separate Account attributable to the GTS-VA Contracts.

For the year ending December 31, 2020, the Total Separate Account Expenses after expense waivers for the GUP Contracts and GTS-VA Contracts were 1.00% and 0.37%, respectively, as a percentage of average net assets invested in the Separate Account. For additional information, see "Fees and Charges — Reduction from Total Expenses."

The next table shows the total operating expenses charged by the VALIC Company I Stock Index Fund for the year ended December 31, 2020. Expenses may be higher or lower in future years. More detail concerning the Fund's fees and expenses is contained in the prospectus for the Fund.

Total Annual Mutual Fund Operating Expenses	
(Expenses that are deducted from the assets of VALIC Company I Stock Index Fund, including management fees, distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees, and other expenses)	0.33%

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Contract with the cost of investing in other variable annuity contracts. These costs include Contract Owner transaction expenses, Contract fees, Separate Account annual expenses and the Variable Account Option fees and expenses.

The example assumes that you invest a single Purchase Payment of \$10,000 in the Contract for the time periods indicated, less the front-end sales charge. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and assumes the maximum fees and expenses for a Variable Account Option. The example does not include the effect of premium taxes upon annuitization, which, if reflected, would result in higher costs. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

If you surrender, annuitize, or do not surrender your Contract at the end of the applicable time period:

<u>Contract</u>	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>	<u>10 Years</u>
GUP	\$579	\$853	\$1,147	\$1,984
GTS-VA	\$518	\$663	\$ 821	\$1,281

Note: This example should not be considered representative of past or future expenses for VALIC Separate Account A or for the Stock Index Fund. Actual expenses may be greater or less

than those shown above. Similarly, the 5% annual rate of return assumed in the example is not an estimate or guarantee of future investment performance.

## Selected Purchase Unit Data

Purchase Units shown are for a Purchase Unit outstanding throughout the year.

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Unit Value at 1/1</b>	<b>Unit Value at 12/31</b>	<b>Number of Units Outstanding at 12/31</b>	<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Unit Value at 1/1</b>	<b>Unit Value at 12/31</b>	<b>Number of Units Outstanding at 12/31</b>
Stock Index Fund (Division 10A) (GUP Contracts)	2020	66.609	77.809	1,532,911	Stock Index Fund (Division 10B) (GTS-VA Contracts)	2020	122.616	144.196	94,271
	2019	51.323	66.609	1,719,709		2019	93.843	122.616	104,465
	2018	54.409	51.323	1,936,919		2018	98.816	93.843	110,752
	2017	45.262	54.409	2,195,823		2017	81.656	98.816	127,995
	2016	40.965	45.262	2,423,610		2016	73.412	81.656	139,447
	2015	40.946	40.965	2,696,973		2015	72.887	73.412	150,565
	2014	36.509	40.946	3,001,516		2014	64.553	72.887	172,564
	2013	27.954	36.509	3,396,561		2013	48.562	64.553	190,252
	2012	24.430	27.954	3,791,783		2012	42.275	48.562	203,700
	2011	24.234	24.430	4,311,896		2011	41.470	42.275	226,142

## Summary

A summary of the Contracts' major features is presented below. For a more detailed discussion of the Contracts, please read the entire prospectus carefully.

### Fixed and Variable Options

The Contracts offer a choice of one Variable Account Option and one Fixed Account Option.

#### Fixed Account Option

**Fixed Account Plus** — invests in the general account assets of the Company. This account provides fixed-return investment growth for the long-term. It is credited with interest at rates set by VALIC. The account is guaranteed to earn at least a minimum rate of interest. There are limitations on transfers out of this option.

#### Variable Account Option

**Stock Index Fund** — seeks long-term capital growth through investments in common stocks that, as a group, are expected to provide investment results closely corresponding to the performance of the S&P 500® Index.

Adviser: VALIC. Sub-adviser: SunAmerica Asset Management LLC ("SunAmerica"). SunAmerica is affiliated with VALIC due to common parent company ownership.

Details about the investment objective and strategy of the Stock Index Fund can be found in the section of the prospectus entitled "Variable Account Option," and also in the current VALIC Company I prospectus, available at [www.aigrs.com](http://www.aigrs.com) (or call 1-800-428-2542).

### Guaranteed Death Benefit

The Contract offers a death benefit upon death of the Annuitant during the Purchase Period equal to the greater of Account Value or Purchase Payments reduced by withdrawals.

### Transfers

There is no charge to transfer your money between the Variable Account Option and the Fixed Account Option during the Purchase Period. *For more information on account transfers, see the "Transfers Between Investment Options" section in this prospectus.*

### Fees and Charges

**Sales and Administrative Charges.** Generally, a Sales and Administrative Charge of up to 5.00% will be deducted from Purchase Payments. *See "Fees and Charges — Sales and Administrative Charge."*

**Premium Tax Charge.** Premium taxes ranging from zero to 3.5% are currently imposed by certain states and municipalities. For a detailed discussion on timing and deduction of premium taxes see the section of this prospectus entitled "Fees and Charges — Premium Tax Charge."

**Separate Account Charges.** For GUP Contracts, if you choose the Variable Account Option you will incur a mortality and expense risk fee computed at an aggregate annualized rate of 1.00% on the average daily net asset value of VALIC Separate Account A. For GTS-VA Contracts, if you choose the Variable Account Option you will incur a mortality and expense risk fee

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at an annual rate which will vary based on the average daily net assets in your group's plan attributable to the Contracts. The Total Separate Account Expense for the Contracts also is subject to a contractual expense limitation. *See "Fees and Charges — Separate Account Charges" in this prospectus.*

### **Payout Options**

When you withdraw your money, you can select from several payout options: an annuity (which guarantees payment for as long as you live), periodic withdrawals and systematic withdrawals. More information on payout options can be found in the "Payout Period" section of this prospectus.

### **Federal Tax Information**

Although deferred annuity contracts such as these Contracts can be purchased with after-tax dollars, they are primarily used in connection with retirement programs that already receive favorable tax treatment under federal law.

Annuities, custodial accounts and trusts used to fund tax-qualified retirement plans and programs (such as those established under Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code") sections 403(b) or 401(k) and individual retirement plans ("IRAs")) generally defer payment on taxes and earnings until withdrawal. If you are considering an annuity to fund a tax-qualified plan or program, you should know that an annuity generally does not provide additional tax deferral beyond the tax-qualified plan or program itself. Annuities, however, may provide other important features and benefits such as the income payout option, which means that you can choose to receive periodic payments for the rest of your life or for a certain number of years, and a minimum guaranteed death benefit, which protects your Beneficiaries if you die before you begin the income payout option. Mortality and expense risk fees are charged for these benefits, as described in the "Fees and Charges" section of this prospectus. Before purchasing a deferred annuity for use in a qualified retirement plan or program, you should seek tax advice from your own tax advisor. *For a more detailed discussion of these income tax provisions, see "Federal Tax Matters."*

### **Purchase Requirements**

*For more information on Purchase Payments, refer to the "Purchase Period" section of the prospectus.*

## **General Information**

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### **About the Contracts**

The Contracts were developed to help you save money for your retirement. A group Contract is a Contract that is purchased by an employer for a retirement plan. The employer and the plan

*GUP Contracts.* Under the GUP Contracts, the minimum initial and subsequent Purchase Payments per a Participant in a group is \$25 if the entire Purchase Payment is allocated to the Variable Account Option and \$30 if the Purchase Payment is split between the Variable Account Option and the Fixed Account Option. In certain group plans, the minimum initial Purchase Payment must be at least \$2,000, and subsequent Purchase Payments must be at least \$5,000. Under certain plans, the minimum initial and subsequent Purchase Payment amounts for the GUP Contracts may differ or may be waived. *See "Purchase Period" in this prospectus.*

*GTS-VA Contracts.* Under the GTS-VA Contracts, the minimum initial and subsequent Purchase Payments is \$10,000 per year. This amount may vary depending on the type of plan in which the GTS-VA Contract is offered. *See "Purchase Period" in this prospectus.*

### **Cancellation — The "Free Look" Period**

The Contract Owner of a group Contract (employer) or individual Contract Owner may cancel a Contract by returning it to the Company within 10 days after it is received. The free look does not apply to Participant certificates except in a limited number of states. To cancel the Contract, the Contract Owner must send a written request for cancellation and return the Contract to us at our Home Office before the end of the "Free Look" period. A refund will be made to the Contract Owner within seven days after receipt of the Contract as required.

### **Loans**

Certain Contracts may offer a tax-free loan provision for tax-qualified Contracts, other than IRAs, which gives you access to your money in the Fixed Account Option (subject to a minimum loan amount of \$1,000). The availability of loans is subject to federal and state government regulations, as well as your employer's plan provisions and VALIC policy. Generally, one loan per account will be allowed. Under certain, specific circumstances, a maximum of two loans per account may be allowed. VALIC reserves the right to change this limit. We may charge a loan application fee. Keep in mind that tax laws restrict withdrawals prior to age 59½ and a tax penalty may apply (including on a loan that is not repaid).

documents will determine how contributions may be made to the Contracts. For example, the employer and plan documents may allow contributions to come from different sources, such



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as payroll deductions or money transfers. The amount, number, and frequency of your Purchase Payments may also be determined by the retirement plan for which your Contract was purchased. Likewise, the employer's plan may have limitations on partial or total withdrawals (surrenders), the start of annuity payments, and the type of annuity payout options you select.

The Contracts offer one fixed and one variable investment option that you, as a Participant, may choose to invest in to help you reach your retirement savings goals. You should consider your personal risk tolerances and your retirement plan in choosing your investment options.

The retirement savings process with the Contracts will involve two stages: the Purchase Period and the annuity Payout Period. The Purchase Period is when you make contributions into the Contracts called "Purchase Payments." The Payout Period begins when you decide to annuitize all or a portion of your Account Value. You can select from a wide array of payout options including both fixed and variable payments. For certain types of retirement plans, such as 403(b) plans, there may be statutory restrictions on withdrawals as disclosed in the plan documents. Please refer to your plan document for guidance and any rules or restrictions regarding the Purchase or Payout Periods. *For more information, see "Purchase Period" and "Payout Period."*

#### **About VALIC**

We were originally organized on December 21, 1955 as The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company of America Incorporated, located in Washington, D.C. We re-organized in the State of Texas on August 20, 1968, as Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company of Texas. The name was changed to The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company on November 5, 1968. Our main business is issuing and offering fixed and variable retirement annuity contracts, like GUP and GTS-VA. Our principal offices are located at 2929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas 77019. We have regional offices throughout the United States.

On August 29, 2001, SunAmerica Financial Group, Inc., formerly American General Corporation ("SAFG"), a holding company and VALIC's indirect parent company, was acquired by American International Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("AIG"). As a result, VALIC is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of AIG. AIG is a leading global insurance organization. AIG provides a wide range of property and casualty insurance, life insurance, retirement products, and other financial services to commercial and individual customers in more than 80 countries and jurisdictions. AIG common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

More information about AIG may be found in the regulatory filings AIG files from time to time with the SEC at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

#### **American Home Assurance Company**

The information below is applicable to you only if your Contract or Certificate was issued on or before December 29, 2006.

Insurance obligations under Contracts issued by the Company are guaranteed by American Home Assurance Company ("American Home"), an affiliate of the Company. Insurance obligations include, without limitation, Contract value invested in any available fixed account option, death benefits and income options. The guarantee does not guarantee Contract value or the investment performance of the Variable Account Option available under the Contracts. The guarantee provides that the Company's Contract owners can enforce the guarantee directly.

American Home Assurance Company provided notice of termination of the General Guarantee Agreement dated March 3, 2003 (the "Guarantee") with respect to contracts issued by VALIC. The Guarantee terminated on December 29, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time ("Point of Termination"). Pursuant to its terms, the Guarantee will not apply to any group or individual contract or certificate issued after the Point of Termination. The Guarantee will remain in effect for any contract or certificate issued prior to the Point of Termination until all insurance obligations under such contracts or certificates are satisfied in full. As described in the prospectus, VALIC will continue to remain obligated under all its contracts and certificates, regardless of issue date, in accordance with the terms of those contracts and certificates.

American Home is a stock property-casualty insurance company incorporated under the laws of the State of New York on February 7, 1899. American Home's principal executive office is located at 175 Water Street, New York, New York 10038. On or about May 14, 2021, American Home's principal executive office will be relocated to 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020. American Home is licensed in all 50 states of the United States and the District of Columbia, as well as certain foreign jurisdictions, and engages in a broad range of insurance and reinsurance activities. American Home is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of AIG.

#### **About VALIC Separate Account A**

When you direct money to the Contract's Variable Account Option, you will be sending that money through VALIC Separate Account A. You do not invest directly in the Stock Index Fund. VALIC Separate Account A invests in the Stock Index Fund on behalf of your account. VALIC acts as self-custodian for the Mutual Fund shares owned through the Separate Account. VALIC Separate Account A is made up of what we call "Divisions." Each Division invests in a different mutual fund. For example, Division Ten represents and invests in the (VALIC Company I) Stock Index Fund. The earnings (or losses) of each Division are credited to (or charged against) the assets

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of that Division, and do not affect the performance of the other Divisions of VALIC Separate Account A.

VALIC established VALIC Separate Account A on July 25, 1979 under Texas insurance law. VALIC Separate Account A is registered with the SEC as a unit investment trust under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, (the “1940 Act”). Units of interest in VALIC Separate Account A are registered as securities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”).

VALIC Separate Account A is administered and accounted for as part of the Company’s business operations. However, the income, capital gains or capital losses, whether or not realized, of each Division of VALIC Separate Account A are credited to or charged against the assets held in that Division without regard to the income, capital gains or capital losses of any other Division or arising out of any other business the Company may conduct. In accordance with the terms of the Contracts, VALIC Separate Account A may not be charged with the liabilities of any other Company operation. As stated in the Contracts, the Texas Insurance Code requires that the assets of VALIC Separate Account A attributable to the Contracts be held exclusively for the benefit of the Contract Owner, Participants, Annuitants, and Beneficiaries of the Contracts. The commitments under the Contracts are VALIC’s, and AIG and SAFG have no legal obligation to back these commitments.

### **Units of Interest**

Your investment in a Division of VALIC Separate Account A is represented by units of interest issued by VALIC Separate Account A. On a daily basis, the units of interest issued by VALIC Separate Account A are revalued to reflect that day’s performance of the underlying mutual fund minus any applicable fees and charges to VALIC Separate Account A.

### **Distribution of the Contracts**

The principal underwriter and distributor for VALIC Separate Account A is AIG Capital Services, Inc. (“ACS” or “Distributor”). ACS, an affiliate of the Company, is located at 21650 Oxnard Street, Suite 750, Woodland Hills, CA 91367-4997. *For more information about the Distributor, see “Distribution of Variable Annuity Contracts” in the SAI.*

The Contracts are no longer offered to new plans but may be available to participants in plans with an existing Contract. Previously, the Contracts were sold by licensed insurance agents who were registered representatives of broker-dealers, who were members of FINRA. *For more information about the distributor, see “Distribution of Variable Annuity Contracts” in the SAI.*

VALIC no longer pays commissions to financial professionals for sales or subsequent Purchase Payments made into the Contracts. In addition, the Company and the Distributor no longer enter into marketing and/or sales agreements with broker-dealers regarding the promotion and marketing of the Contracts.

However, VALIC maintains ongoing relationships with various organizations and associations, including trade associations, unions, and other industry groups, to which VALIC makes sponsorship payments for general marketing and advertising opportunities. These marketing and advertising opportunities may take the form of participation in leadership and recognition events, educational conferences, speaking opportunities, booth space and signage at membership conferences and similar events, and membership dinners. Such payments are typically flat fees (either one-time or recurring) and are not based on transactions or sales.

VALIC also has ongoing relationships with retirement plan sponsors. As part of these ongoing relationships, VALIC may sponsor events and seminars for plan participants that provide education for plan participants, as well as marketing and advertising opportunities for VALIC. Such sponsorships may include providing occasional meals, entertainment, or nominal gifts to the extent permitted by FINRA rules.

These sponsorships may be considered endorsements of VALIC products, may result in additional annuity sales to plan participants, and provide an incentive to these organizations, associations, and plan sponsors to promote VALIC’s products and services.

VALIC and/or its affiliates receive payments from fund sponsors and service providers that voluntarily choose to participate in, and that are designed to defray the costs associated with, VALIC-sponsored or affiliate-sponsored conferences, seminars, training or other educational events where such funds or other related services are discussed and that are attended by VALIC employees, employees of our affiliates and/or plan sponsors and plan consultants.

### **Administration of the Contracts**

VALIC is responsible for the administrative servicing of your contract. Please contact the Annuity Service Center at 1-800-448-2542, if you have any comments, questions or service requests.

*Business Disruption and Cyber Security Risks.* We rely heavily on interconnected computer systems and digital data to conduct our variable product business activities. Because our variable product business is highly dependent upon the effective operation of our computer systems and those of our business partners, our business is vulnerable to disruptions



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from physical disruptions and utility outages, and susceptible to operational and information security risks resulting from information systems failure (e.g., hardware and software malfunctions) and cyber-attacks. These risks include, among other things, the theft, misuse, corruption and destruction of data maintained online or digitally, interference with or denial of service attacks on websites and other operational disruptions and unauthorized release of confidential customer information. Such systems failures and cyber-attacks affecting us, any third-party administrator, the underlying Funds, intermediaries and other affiliated or third-party service providers, as well as our distribution partners, may adversely affect us and your Contract value. For instance, systems failures and cyber-attacks may interfere with our processing of Contract transactions, including the processing of orders from our website, our distribution partners, or with the underlying Funds, impact our ability to calculate Purchase Unit values, cause the release and possible destruction of confidential customer or business information, impede order processing, subject us and/or our service providers, distribution partners and other intermediaries to regulatory fines, litigation risks and financial losses and/or cause reputational damage. Cyber security risks may also impact the issuers of securities in which the underlying Funds invest, which may cause the Funds underlying your Contract to lose value. Despite our implementation of policies and procedures that address physical, administrative and technical safeguards and controls and other preventative actions to

protect customer information and reduce the risk of cyber-incident, there can be no assurance that we or our distribution partners or the underlying Funds or our service providers will avoid losses affecting your Contract and personal information due to cyber-attacks or information security breaches in the future.

Our business is also vulnerable to disruptions from natural and man-made disasters and catastrophes, such as but not limited to hurricanes, windstorms, flooding, earthquakes, wildfires, solar storms, war or other military action, acts of terrorism, explosions and fires, pandemic (such as COVID-19) and other highly contagious diseases, mass torts and other catastrophes. A natural or man-made disaster or catastrophe may negatively affect the computer and other systems on which we rely, and may also interfere with our ability to receive, pickup and process mail, to calculate Purchase Unit values or process other Contract-related transactions, or have other possible negative impacts. While we have developed and put in place business continuity and disaster recovery plans to mitigate operational risks and potential losses related to business disruptions resulting from natural and man-made disasters and catastrophes, there can be no assurance that we, our agents, the underlying Funds or our service providers will be able to successfully avoid negative impacts resulting from such disasters and catastrophes.

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## Fixed Account Option

The Contracts offer one Fixed Account Option (“Fixed Account Plus”) that is a part of the general account assets of the Company. These assets are invested in accordance with applicable state regulations to provide fixed-rate earnings and guarantees safety of the principal. The guarantee is backed by the claims-paying ability of the Company, and not the Separate Account. This account is guaranteed to earn at least a minimum rate of interest, as disclosed in your Contract, and interest is paid at a declared rate. Certain limitations may also apply. See *“Transfers Between Investment Options.”* The Fixed Account Option is not subject to regulation under the 1940 Act and is not required to be registered under The Securities Act of 1933, as amended. As a result, the SEC has not reviewed data in this

prospectus that relates to the Fixed Account Option. However, federal securities law does require such data to be accurate and complete.

Money allocated to the Fixed Account Option goes into VALIC’s general account. The general account consists of all VALIC’s assets, other than assets attributable to a separate account. All of the assets in the general account are chargeable with the claims of any VALIC contract holders as well as all of its creditors. The general account funds are invested as permitted under state insurance laws. Purchase Payments and interest earned on such amounts in your Fixed Account Option will be paid regardless of the investment results experienced by VALIC’s general assets. Thus, we bear the entire investment risk for the Fixed Account Option.

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## Variable Account Option

The Contracts enable you to participate in a Division that represents a Variable Account Option. Certain limitations may also apply. See *“About VALIC Separate Account A” in this prospectus.* The Division represents and invests, through VALIC’s Separate Account A, in a specific portfolio of VALIC Company I. VALIC Company I serves as the investment vehicle for the Contracts.

VALIC Company I is registered as an open-end, management investment company and is regulated under the 1940 Act. For more detailed information about the Stock Index Fund option, including investment strategy and risks, you should refer to the VALIC Company I prospectus. Copies are available online at [www.aigr.com](http://www.aigr.com) or you may call 1-800-448-2542. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

*Stock Index Fund*

Investment objective: Seeks long-term capital growth through investment in common stocks that, as a group, are expected to provide investment results closely corresponding to the performance of the S&P 500® Index. Adviser: VALIC. Sub-adviser: SunAmerica.

SunAmerica is affiliated with the adviser, VALIC, due to common ownership. “Standard & Poor’s®,” “S&P,” and “S&P 500®” are trademarks of Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”). The Stock Index Fund is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by S&P and S&P makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in this Fund.

**Purchase Period**

The Purchase Period begins when your first Purchase Payment is made and continues until you begin your Payout Period. This period may also be called the accumulation period, as you save for retirement. Changes in the value of the Fixed and Variable Account Option are reflected in your overall Account Value. Thus, your investment choices and their performance will affect the total Account Value that will be available for the Payout Period. The amount, number, and frequency of Purchase Payments may be determined by the retirement plan for which the Contract was purchased. The Purchase Period will end upon death, upon surrender, or when you complete the process to begin the Payout Period.

**Account Establishment**

You must establish an account through a financial professional. Initial Purchase Payments must be received by VALIC either with, or after, a completed application. Your employer is usually responsible for remitting Purchase Payments to us. The employer is responsible for furnishing instructions to us (a premium flow report) as to the amount being applied to your account (see below).

The maximum single payment that may be applied to any account without prior Home Office approval is \$1,000,000.00. Minimum initial and subsequent Purchase Payments are as follows:

<u>Contract Type</u>	<u>Initial Payment</u>	<u>Subsequent Payment</u>
GUP Contracts issued under Section 401 of the Code . . . . .	\$2,000	\$5,000
All other GUP Contracts . . . . .	\$30 (with a \$12 minimum allocated to the Variable Account Option) or \$25 if the entire Purchase Payment amount is to be allocated to the Variable Account Option only	\$30 (with a \$12 minimum allocated to the Variable Account Option) or \$25 if the entire Purchase Payment amount is to be allocated to the Variable Account Option only
GTS-VA Contracts issued under Sections 401 and 403(b) of the Code . . . . .	\$10,000	\$10,000
All other GTS-VA Contracts . . . . .	No minimum	No minimum

Purchase Payment minimums apply to each Purchase Payment made. For the GUP Contracts, VALIC may occasionally waive the Minimum Initial and Subsequent Purchase Payment amounts for group plans established for employers with 500 or more employees.

annuity Contract, we will return the Purchase Payments within 5 Business Days if the requested information is not provided, unless you otherwise so specify. Once you provide us with the requested information, we will establish your account and apply your Purchase Payment, on the date we accept your application, by crediting the amount to the Fixed or Variable Account Option selected.

When an initial Purchase Payment is accompanied by an application we will promptly:

- Accept the application and establish your account. We will also apply your Purchase Payment by crediting the amount, on the date we accept your application, to the Fixed or Variable Account Option selected;
- Reject the application and return the Purchase Payment; or
- Request additional information to correct or complete the application. In the case of an individual variable

If we receive Purchase Payments from your employer before we receive your completed application or enrollment form, we will not be able to establish a permanent account for you. If this occurs, we will take one of the following actions:

- Return Purchase Payments. If we do not have your name, address or Social Security Number (“SSN”), we will return the Purchase Payment to your employer unless this information is immediately provided to us; or

- **Employer-Directed Account.** If we have your name, address and SSN and we have an Employer-Directed Account Agreement with your employer, generally we will deposit your Purchase Payment in an “Employer-Directed” account invested in the Fixed Account Option. You may not transfer these amounts until VALIC has received a completed application or enrollment form.

If mandated under applicable law, we may be required to reject a Purchase Payment. We may also be required to block a Contract Owner’s account and thereby refuse to pay any request for transfers, withdrawals, surrenders, loans or death benefits, until instructions are received from the appropriate regulator.

### When Your Account Will be Credited

Depending on your retirement plan, Purchase Payments may be made by your employer for your account or by you for an IRA. It is the employer’s or the individual’s responsibility to ensure that the Purchase Payment can be promptly posted to the appropriate account(s).

A Purchase Payment must be “in good order” before it can be posted to your account. “In good order” means that all required information and/or documentation has been supplied and that the funds (check, wire, or ACH) clearly identify the individual SSN or group number to which they are to be applied. To ensure efficient posting for Employer Directed accounts, Purchase Payment information must include complete instructions, including the group name and number, each employee’s name and SSN, contribution amounts (balanced to the penny for the total purchase) and the source of the funds (for example, employee voluntary, employer mandatory, employer match, transfer, rollover or a contribution for a particular tax year). Purchase Payments for individual accounts must include the name, SSN, and the source of the funds (for example, transfer, rollover, or a contribution for a particular tax year).

If the Purchase Payment is in good order as described and is received by our bank by Market Close, the appropriate account(s) will be credited the Business Day of receipt. Purchase Payments in good order received after Market Close will be credited the next Business Day.

Please note that if the Purchase Payment is not in good order, the employer or individual will be notified promptly. No amounts will be posted to any accounts until all issues with the Purchase Payment have been resolved. If a Purchase Payment is not received in good order, the purchase amounts will be posted effective the date all required information is received.

### Purchase Units

A Purchase Unit is a unit of interest owned by you in your Variable Account Option. Purchase Unit values are calculated each Business Day following the close of regular trading of the NYSE, normally Market Close. Purchase Units may be shown as “Number of Shares” and the Purchase Unit values may be shown as “Share Price” on some account statements. See “Purchase Unit Value” in the SAI for more information and an illustration of the calculation of the unit value.

### Calculation of Value for the Fixed Account Option

You may allocate all or a portion of your Purchase Payments to the Fixed Account Option listed in this prospectus as permitted by your retirement program. A complete discussion of the Fixed Account Option may be found in the “Fixed Account Option” section in this prospectus. The value of your Fixed Account Option is calculated on a given Business Day as shown below:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{The value of your Fixed Account Option} \\
 = & \text{ (equals)} \\
 & \text{All Purchase Payments made to the Fixed Account Option} \\
 + & \text{ (plus)} \\
 & \text{Amounts transferred from the Variable Account Option to} \\
 & \text{the Fixed Account Option} \\
 + & \text{ (plus)} \\
 & \text{all interest earned} \\
 - & \text{ (minus)} \\
 & \text{Amounts transferred or withdrawn from Fixed Account} \\
 & \text{Option (including applicable fees and charges).}
 \end{aligned}$$

### Calculation of Value for the Variable Account Option

You may allocate all or a portion of your Purchase Payments to the Variable Account Option listed in this prospectus as permitted by your retirement program. A complete discussion of the Variable Account Option may be found in the “Variable Account Option” section in this prospectus. Based upon the Variable Account Option’s Purchase Unit value your account will be credited with the applicable number of Purchase Units, including any dividends or capital gains per share declared on behalf of the underlying Funds as of that day. If the Purchase Payment is in good order as described and is received by Market Close, the appropriate account(s) will be credited the Business Day of receipt and will receive that Business Day’s Purchase Unit value. Purchase Payments in good order received after Market Close will be credited the next Business Day and will receive the next Business Day’s Purchase Unit value. The Purchase Unit value of the Variable Account Option will change each Business Day depending upon the investment performance of the Stock Index Fund (which may be positive or negative) and the deduction of the separate account charges. See “Fees and Charges.” Because Purchase Unit values change each Business Day, the number of Purchase Units your account

will be credited with for subsequent Purchase Payments will vary. The Variable Account Option bears its own investment risk. Therefore, the value of your account may be worth more or less at retirement or withdrawal.

**Stopping Purchase Payments**

Purchase Payments may be stopped at any time. Purchase Payments may be resumed at any time during the Purchase Period. The value of the Purchase Units will continue to vary, and your Account Value will continue to be subject to charges.

**Transfers Between Investment Options**

You may transfer all or part of your Account Value between the Fixed and Variable Account Options in the Contract without a charge. Transfers may be made during the Purchase Period or during the Payout Period, subject to certain restrictions. **We reserve the right to limit the number, frequency (minimum period of time between transfers) or dollar amount of transfers you can make and to restrict the method and manner of providing or communicating transfers or reallocation instructions.** You will be notified of any changes to this policy through newsletters or information posted online at [www.aigrs.com](http://www.aigrs.com). Your employer’s plan may also limit your rights to transfer.

**During the Purchase Period — Policy Against Market Timing and Frequent Transfers**

VALIC has a policy to discourage excessive trading and market timing. Our investment options are not designed to accommodate short-term trading or “market timing” organizations, or individuals engaged in certain trading strategies, such as programmed transfers, frequent transfers, or transfers that are large in relation to the total assets of a mutual fund. These trading strategies may be disruptive to mutual funds by diluting the value of the fund shares, negatively affecting investment strategies and increasing portfolio turnover. Excessive trading may also raise fund expenses, such as recordkeeping and transaction costs, and can potentially harm fund performance. Further, excessive trading may harm fund investors, as the excessive trader takes security profits intended for the entire fund and could force securities to be sold to meet redemption needs. The premature selling and disrupted investment strategy could cause the fund’s performance to suffer, and exerts downward pressure on the fund’s price per share.

Accordingly, VALIC implemented certain policies and procedures intended to hinder short-term trading. If the Contract Owner sells Purchases Units in a Variable Account Option valued at \$5,000 or more, whether through an

The Account Value will be considered surrendered when you begin the Payout Period. You may not make Purchase Payments during the Payout Period.

If both your Account Value and Purchase Payments (less any withdrawals) fall below \$300, and you do not make any Purchase Payments for at least a two-year period, we may close the account and pay the Account Value to the Participant. We will not assess a surrender charge in this instance. Any such account closures will be subject to applicable distribution restrictions under the Contract and/or under your employer’s plan.

exchange, transfer, or any other redemption, the Contract Owner will not be able to make a purchase of \$5,000 or more in that same Variable Account Option for 30 calendar days.

This policy applies only to investor-initiated trades of \$5,000 or more, and does not apply to the following:

- Plan-level or employer-initiated transactions;
- Purchase transactions involving transfers of assets or rollovers;
- Retirement plan contributions, loans, and distributions (including hardship withdrawals);
- Roth IRA conversions or IRA recharacterizations;
- Systematic purchases or redemptions;
- Systematic account rebalancing; or
- Trades of less than \$5,000.

As described in a fund’s prospectus and statement of additional information, in addition to the above, fund purchases, transfers and other redemptions may be subject to other investor trading policies, including redemption fees, if applicable. Certain Funds may set limits on transfers in and out of a Fund within a set time period in addition to or in lieu of the policy above. Also, an employer’s benefit plan may limit an investor’s rights to transfer.

We intend to enforce these investor trading policies uniformly. We make no assurances that all the risks associated with frequent trading will be completely eliminated by these policies and/or restrictions. If we are unable to detect or prevent market timing activity may result in additional transaction costs for the Variable Account Option and dilution of long-term performance returns. Thus a Contract Owner’s account value may be lower due to the effect of the extra costs and resultant lower performance. We reserve the right to modify these policies at any time. The Fixed Account Option is subject to additional restrictions:

<u>Fixed Account Option</u>	<u>% of Account Value</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Other Restrictions</u>
Fixed Account Plus: . . . . .	Up to 100%	Any time	Available if your Account Value is less than or equal to \$500.



## Communicating Transfer or Reallocation Instructions

Transfer instructions may be given by telephone, through the Internet (VALIC Online), using the self-service automated phone system (VALIC by Phone), or in writing. We encourage you to make transfers or reallocations using VALIC Online or VALIC by Phone for most efficient processing. We will send a confirmation of transactions to the Participant within five days from the date of transaction. It is your responsibility to verify the information shown and notify us of any errors within 30 calendar days of the transaction.

Generally, no one may give us telephone instructions on your behalf without your written or recorded verbal consent. Financial professionals or authorized broker-dealer employees who have received client permission to perform a client-directed transfer of value via the telephone or Internet will follow prescribed verification procedures.

When receiving instructions over the telephone or online, we follow appropriate procedures to provide reasonable assurance that the transactions executed are genuine. Thus, we are not responsible for any claim, loss or expense from any error resulting from instructions received over the telephone or online. If we fail to follow our procedures, we may be liable for

any losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions. We reserve the right to modify, suspend, waive or terminate these transfer provisions at any time.

## Effective Date of Transfer

The effective date of a transfer will be:

- The date of receipt, if received in our Home Office before Market Close; otherwise,
- The next date values are calculated.

We will send a confirmation of transactions to the Participant within five days from the date of the transaction. It is your responsibility to verify the information shown and notify us of any errors within 30 calendar days of the transaction.

## Transfers During the Payout Period

During the Payout Period, transfer instructions must be given in writing and mailed to our Home Office. Transfers may be made from Variable Account Option once every 365 days. Transfers are not permitted from the Fixed Account Option at any time during the Payout Period.

## Fees and Charges

By investing in GUP or GTS-VA, you may be subject to four basic types of fees and charges, applied to the Fixed and Variable Account Option:

- Sales and Administrative Charge
- Premium Tax Charge
- Separate Account Charges
- Other Tax Charges

These fees and charges are applied to the Fixed and Variable Account Options in proportion to the Account Value as

explained below. Unless we state otherwise, we may profit from these fees and charges. *For additional information about these fees and charges, see the "Fee Tables."*

## Sales and Administrative Charge

When you make a Purchase Payment to your account, you may be subject to a Sales and Administrative Charge that will be deducted from the amount of your Purchase Payment. The Sales and Administrative Charge will be deducted from the GUP Contracts as follows:

<u>Aggregate Gross Purchase Payments <sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Deduction as a Percentage of Purchase Payments <sup>(2)</sup></u>	<u>Deduction as a Percentage of Net Purchase Payments <sup>(3)</sup></u>
First \$5,000 .....	5.00%	5.26%
Next \$5,000 .....	4.00%	4.17%
Next \$5,000 .....	3.50%	3.36%
Over \$15,000 .....	3.00%	3.09%

(1) The Aggregate Gross Purchase Payments is the entire amount that you pay to the Company under a Contract.

(2) We will only deduct 2% (1.4% administrative expenses and 0.6% sales expenses) from single one-time Purchase Payments, except when the single one-time Purchase Payment is transferred from other Company annuity contracts for which no deduction is made. Any subsequent Purchase Payments made after a single one-time Purchase Payment will be subject to the deduction as described above with the lump sum included in the Aggregate Gross Purchase Payment.

(3) The Gross Purchase Payment amount minus the deduction for Sales and Administrative Expenses is the amount of the Net Purchase Payment.



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If you are a full-time sales representative of VALIC, and have been employed by VALIC for 90 days or more, then you may participate in a GUP Contract with no Sales and Administrative Charge.

If your Contract is unallocated, then the Sales and Administrative Charge will be 2% for each Purchase Payment.

### **Premium Tax Charge**

Premium taxes are imposed by some states, cities, and towns. The rate will range from 0% to 3.5%, depending on whether the Contract is qualified or nonqualified. Such tax will be deducted from the Account Value when annuity payments are to begin. We will not profit from this charge. If you are in a GUP deposit administration contract, then your premium taxes will be added to payout rates when you are added to a group plan, and not deducted from Purchase Payments.

### **Separate Account Charges**

There will be a mortality and expense risk fee applied to VALIC Separate Account A.

For GUP Contracts, this is a daily charge at an annualized rate of 1.00% on the average daily net asset value of your investment in VALIC Separate Account A. For GTS-VA Contracts, this is a daily charge at an annualized rate, as follows:

- 0.85% on the first \$10,000,000,
- 0.425% on the next \$90,000,000, and
- 0.21% on assets over \$100,000,000,

on the average daily net asset value of your plan's investment in VALIC Separate Account A. The mortality and risk fee for the GTS-VA Contracts may be reduced as a result of a guaranteed contractual expense limitation. See "*Fees and Charges — Reduction from Total Expenses*" below.

This charge is guaranteed and cannot be increased by the Company. The mortality and expense risk fee is to compensate the Company for assuming mortality and expense risks under the Contracts. The mortality risk that the Company assumes is the obligation to provide payments during the Payout Period for your life no matter how long that might be. In addition, the Company assumes the obligation to pay during the Purchase Period a death benefit which may be higher than your Account Value. *For more information about the death benefit see the "Death Benefit" section of this prospectus.* The expense risk is our obligation to cover the cost of issuing and administering the Contracts, no matter how large the cost may be. Separate Account Charges are not applied to Variable Investment Options during the Payout Period. *For more information about the mortality and expense risk fee, see the Fee Tables in this prospectus.*

### **Other Charges**

We reserve the right to charge for certain taxes (in addition to premium taxes) that we may have to pay. This could include federal income taxes. Currently, no such charges are being made.

Fees for plan services provided by parties other than VALIC or its affiliates maybe assessed to participant accounts upon the direction of authorization of a plan representative. Additional fees may be withdrawn from client accounts in accordance with a client's independent investment advisory contract. Such withdrawals will be identified on applicable participant account reports or client statements.

Plan loans from the Fixed Account Option may be allowed by your employer's plan. Refer to your plan for a description of charges and other information concerning plan loans. We reserve the right to charge a fee of up to \$60 per loan, if permitted under state law, and to limit the number of outstanding loans.

### **Reduction from Total Expenses**

When the Company reorganized its separate accounts in 1987, merging VALIC Separate Account One and VALIC Separate Account Two into VALIC Separate Account A, the Company guaranteed that the fees and charges would not be greater as a result of this reorganization. Endorsements added to the Contracts provide that certain Annual Fund Operating Expenses and the Separate Account Annual Expenses will not be higher on the Contracts funded by VALIC Separate Account A, than they were when the Contracts were funded by VALIC Separate Account One and VALIC Separate Account Two.

The Company, for VALIC Separate Account One and VALIC Separate Account Two, determined the ratio of certain Annual Fund Operating Expenses and Separate Account Annual Expenses to the total net assets of VALIC Separate Account One and VALIC Separate Account Two, called the Expense Ratio. On April 1, 1987, the Expense Ratio was calculated to determine the Maximum Expense Ratio.

The Company guarantees that the amount of the Expense Ratio will never exceed the amount of the Maximum Expense Ratio. The Maximum Expense Ratio for the GUP Contracts is 1.4157% and for the GTS-VA Contracts is 0.6966% on the first \$25,434,267, 0.50% on the next \$74,565,733 and 0.25% of the excess over \$100 million of the total of the total net assets in the Separate Account attributable to your plan.

The Maximum Expense Ratio does not apply to extraordinary and non-recurring Fund Annual Expenses. These expenses may include certain liabilities and litigation associated with indemnification payments of VALIC Company I failing to qualify as a Regulated Investment Company under the Code. The Company believes that such expenses and liabilities, although possible, are unlikely to occur.

We may, as described below, determine that the Sales and Administrative Charge or separate account charges for the Contracts may be reduced or waived. We may reduce or waive

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these charges if we determine that your retirement program will allow us to reduce or eliminate administrative or sales expenses that we usually incur for retirement programs. There are a number of factors we will review in determining whether your retirement program will allow us to reduce or eliminate these administrative or sales expenses:

- The type of retirement program. Certain types of retirement programs, because of their stability, can result in lower administrative costs.

- The nature of your retirement program. Certain types of retirement programs, due to the types of employees who participate, experience fewer account Surrenders, thus reducing administrative costs.
- Other factors of which we are not presently aware which could reduce administrative costs.

In no event will the reduction or waiver of fees and charges be permitted where the reduction or waiver will unfairly discriminate against any person.

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## Payout Period

The Payout Period begins when you decide to retire or otherwise withdraw your money in a steady stream of payments. If your employer's plan permits, you may apply all or a portion of your Account Value to one of the types of payout options listed below. You may choose to have your payout option on a fixed, a variable, or a combination payout basis. If you do not elect a payout option, the payout option will mirror the allocation of investment options in your Contract upon annuitization. For example, if your Account Value is allocated solely to the Variable Account Option upon annuitization and you have not made an election, a variable payout option will be applied, or if your Account Value is allocated to a Fixed Account Option, a fixed payout option will be applied. Similarly, if your Account Value is allocated to both Fixed and Variable Account Options, a combination fixed and variable payout option will be applied.

### Fixed Payout

Under fixed payout, you will receive payments that are fixed and guaranteed by the Company. The amount of these payments will depend on:

- Type and duration of payout option chosen;
- Your age or your age and the age of your survivor<sup>(1)</sup>;
- Your gender or your gender and the gender of your survivor<sup>(1)</sup> (IRAs);
- The portion of your Account Value being applied; and
- The payout rate being applied and the frequency of the payments.

<sup>(1)</sup> This applies only to joint and survivor payouts.

If the benefit would be greater, the amount of your payments will be based on the current payout rate the Company uses for immediate annuity contracts.

### Assumed Investment Rate

An "Assumed Investment Rate" or "AIR" is the rate used to determine your first monthly Payout Payment per thousand

dollars of account value in your Variable Account Option. When you decide to enter the Payout Period, you will select your Payout Option, your Annuity Date, and the AIR. You may choose an AIR ranging from 3.5% to 5% (as prescribed by state law). If you choose a higher AIR, the initial Annuity Payment will be higher, but later payments will increase more slowly during periods of good investment performance, and decrease faster during periods of poor investment performance. Your choice of AIR may affect the duration and frequency of payments, depending on the Payout Option selected.

### Variable Payout

With a variable payout, you select your existing Variable Account Option. Your payments will vary accordingly. This is due to the varying investment results that will be experienced by the Variable Account Option. The Payout Unit value is calculated just like the Purchase Unit value for the Variable Account Option except that the Payout Unit value includes a factor for the AIR you select. For additional information on how Payout Payments and Payout Unit values are calculated, see the SAI.

In determining the first Payout Payment, an AIR of 3.5% is used (unless you select a higher rate as allowed by state law) for all Contracts, except GTS-VA Contracts that are not sold under Section 403(b), which have an AIR of 3% (unless you select a higher rate as allowed by state law). If the net investment experience of the Variable Account Option exceeds the AIR, subsequent payments will be greater than your first payment. If the investment experience of the Variable Account Option is lower than the AIR, subsequent payments will be less than your first payment.

### Combination Fixed and Variable Payout

With a combination fixed and variable payout, you may choose:

- From your existing Variable Account Option (payment will vary); with a
- Fixed payout (payment is fixed and guaranteed).

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## Partial Annuitization

A Participant may choose to annuitize a portion of the Account Value. This will, in essence, divide your Account Value into two parts. The current non-annuitized part would continue as before, while the annuitized part would effectively be moved to a new Payout Payment account. Thus, the death benefit in such a situation would be reduced to the value of the amount remaining in the account minus the amount applied to Payout Payments. Depending on the payout option selected, there may also be a death benefit from the annuitized portion of the account, such as a payout for a guaranteed period.

## Payout Date

The payout date is the date elected by you on which the annuity Payout Payments will start. The date elected must be the first of any month. A request to start payments must be received in our Home Office on a form approved by VALIC. This request must be received by VALIC by at least the 15th day of the month prior to the month you wish your annuity payments to start. Your account will be valued ten days prior to the beginning of the month in which the Payout Payments will start.

The following additional rules also apply when determining the payout date:

- The earliest payout date for a nonqualified contract, an IRA, or a Roth IRA, is established by the terms of the contract, and generally can be any time from age 50 to age 75, and may not be later than age 75 without VALIC's consent.
- The earliest payout date for all other qualified contracts is generally subject to the terms of the employer-sponsored plan (including 403(b) plans and programs) under which the contract is issued and the federal tax rules governing such contracts and plans.
- Distributions from qualified contracts issued under employer-sponsored retirement plans generally are not permitted until after you stop working for the employer sponsoring the plan, unless you have experienced a qualifying financial hardship (or in the case of a 457(b) plan, an unforeseeable emergency) or unless you have become disabled.
- In certain cases, and frequently in the case of your voluntary deferrals to a 403(b) or a 401(k) plan, you may begin taking distributions when you attain age 59½ even if you are still working for the employer sponsoring the plan.
- Except in the case of nonqualified contracts, IRAs, and Roth IRAs, distributions generally must begin no later than April 1 following the calendar year you reach age 72 or the calendar year in which you retire, if later.

Similar rules apply to IRAs, however distributions from those contracts may not be postponed until after retirement.

- All contracts require distributions to commence within a prescribed period after the death of the owner/participant, subject to the specific rules which apply to the type of plan or arrangement under which the contract is issued.
- The contract may also impose minimum amounts for annuity payments, either on an annual or on a more frequent periodic basis.

For additional information on plan-level distribution restrictions and on the minimum distribution rules that apply to payments under 403(b), 401, 403(a) and 457 plans, simplified employee plans ("SEPs") or IRAs, see "Federal Tax Matters" in this prospectus and in the SAI.

## Payout Options

You may specify the manner in which your Payout Payments are made. You may select one of the following options for a Fixed Annuity, a Variable Annuity, or a combination Fixed and Variable Annuity, except that Payment for a Designated Period is available only as a fixed payout. This choice is a one-time permanent choice. Your Payout Payment annuity option may not be changed later and it may not be exchanged for a cash payment.

- *Life Only* — payments are made only to you during your lifetime. Under this option there is no provision for a death benefit for the Beneficiary. For example, it would be possible under this option for the Annuitant to receive only one Payout Payment if the Annuitant died prior to the date of the second payment, or two if the Annuitant died before the third payment.
- *Life with Guaranteed Period* — payments are made to you during your lifetime, but if you die before the guaranteed period has expired, payments will continue to the Beneficiary for the rest of the guaranteed period, or take a lump-sum distribution. Under the GTS-VA Contracts, the Payout Payments must be at least \$25 each.
- *Life with Cash or Unit Refund* — payments are made to you during your lifetime. Upon your death, your Beneficiary may receive an additional payment. The payment under a Fixed Annuity, if any, is equal to the Fixed Annuity value of the Participant's Account at the time it was valued for the Payout Date, less the Payout Payments. The payment under a Variable Annuity, if any, is equal to the Variable Annuity value of the Participant's Account at the time it was valued for the Payout Date, less the Payout Payments.

- *Joint and Survivor Life* — payments are made to you during the joint lifetime of you and a second person. Upon the death of one, payments continue during the lifetime of the survivor. This option is designed primarily for couples who require maximum possible variable payouts during their joint lives and are not concerned with providing for Beneficiaries at death of the last survivor. For example, it would be possible under this option for the joint Annuitants to receive only one payment if both Annuitants died prior to the date of the second payment, or for the joint Annuitants to receive only one payment and the surviving Annuitant to receive only one payment if one Annuitant died prior to the date of the second payment and the surviving Annuitant dies prior to the date of the third payment. For example, if the Annuitant dies before receiving a Payout Payment, the first Payout Payment will be made to the second designated person. If both Annuitant and the second designated person die before the first Payout Payment is made, no Payout Payments will be made.
- *Payment of a Specified Amount* — payments in equal annual, semi-annual, quarterly or monthly installments are made to you of a specified dollar amount until the remaining balance is less than the specified dollar amount, at which time, the remaining balance will be paid to you.
- *Payment of Investment Income* — payments are made to you, out of your Account Value placed in the Fixed Account Option, on an annual, semi-annual, quarterly or monthly basis. Payments are calculated by the net investment rate for the period multiplied by the remaining Account Value. Upon your death, payments will continue to your Beneficiary until the remaining balance is paid out. At any time, you may elect to receive a lump sum payment equal to the remaining Account Value.
- *Payment for a Designated Period* — payments are made to you for a select number of years between one and 20. Upon your death, payments will continue to your Beneficiary until the designated period is completed. Payment for a designated period is available as a fixed payout option only.

### Level Payments Option

The level payments enhancement is an option that can only be used if you have a GUP Contract and if you selected one of the

first four payout options above. Under the level payments option, payments are made once each month during each payout year at a certain level determined for that year based on the investment performance of the Separate Account. The amount of the payments will be determined by dividing the payment amount by the current Payout Unit value to determine the number of Payout Units in each subsequent annual payment. *For more information about payout options or enhancements of those payout options available under the contract, see the SAI.*

### Payout Information

Once your Payout Payments have begun, the option you have chosen may not be stopped or changed. The Variable Account Option may result in your receiving unequal payments during the Payout Period. If payments begin before age 59½, you may suffer unfavorable tax consequences, in the form of a penalty tax, if you do not meet an exception under federal tax law. *See "Federal Tax Matters."*

If a payout option selection is not made at least 30 days before the Payout Date, then:

- Payments will be made under the life with guaranteed period option;
- The payments will be guaranteed for a 10 year period;
- The payments will be based on the allocation used for the Participant's Purchase Payments;
- The Fixed Account Option will be used to distribute payments to the Participant on a fixed payout basis; and
- The Variable Account Option will be used to distribute payments to the Participant on a variable payout basis.

Under certain retirement plans, federal pension law may require that payments be made under the joint and survivor life payout option.

Most Payout Payments are made monthly. The first Payout Payment must total at least \$25, and the annual payment must be at least \$100. If the amount of a payment is less than \$25, we reserve the right to reduce the frequency of payments so that each payment is at least \$25, subject to any limitations under the Contract or plan.



## Surrender of Account Value

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### When Surrenders are Allowed

You may withdraw all or part of your Account Value during the Purchase Period if:

- allowed under federal and state law; and
- allowed under your employer's plan.

For Purchase Payments that are contributions made under your employer's plan, such as a 401(a) or (k) qualified cash or deferred arrangement or a 403(b) plan, surrenders are subject to the terms of the plan, in accordance with the Code. Qualified plans often require certain conditions to be met before a distribution or withdrawal may take place. See "Surrender Restrictions" below.

For an explanation of charges that may apply if you surrender your Account Value, see "Fees and Charges" in this prospectus. Additionally, you may incur a 10% federal tax penalty for partial or total surrenders made before age 59½.

*Delay required under applicable law.* We may be required under applicable law to block a request for a surrender until we receive instructions from the appropriate regulator, due to the USA Patriot Act.

In accordance with state law, payments may be deferred up to six months after we receive a request for a full and immediate surrender of the Contract or certificate, including amounts accumulated in the Fixed Account Options, if approved in writing by the insurance commissioner of the state where the individual Contract is issued or where the group contract is issued for the certificate. If payment is deferred, interest will accrue until the payment is made.

VALIC may be required to suspend or postpone the payment of a withdrawal for more than 7 days when: (1) the NYSE is closed (other than a customary weekend and holiday closings); (2) trading with the NYSE is restricted; (3) an emergency exists such that disposal of or determination of the value of shares of the Variable Account Options is not reasonably practicable; or (4) the SEC, by order, so permits for the protection of Contract Owners.

### Surrender Process

If you are allowed to surrender all or a portion of your Account Value as noted above, then you must complete a surrender request form and mail it to our Home Office. We will mail the surrender value to you within seven calendar days after we receive your request if it is in good order. Good order means that all paperwork is complete and signed or approved by all required persons, and any necessary supporting legal documents or plan forms have been received in correct form.

We may be required to suspend or postpone payments if redemption of the Stock Index Fund's shares have been suspended or postponed. See the VALIC Company I prospectus for a discussion of the reasons why the redemption of shares may be suspended or postponed.

We may receive a surrender request for a Purchase Payment that has not cleared the banking system. We may delay payment of that portion of your surrender value until the check clears.

We may defer payment of the surrender value in the Fixed Account Option for up to 6 months. Interest will be paid on such amounts if payment of Fixed Account Option Surrender Value is deferred for 30 calendar days or more.

### Amount That May Be Surrendered

The amount that may be surrendered during the Purchase Period can be determined as follows:

Allowed surrender value	= (equals)	The Account Value next computed after your properly completed request for surrender is received in our Home Office.
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There is no guarantee that the surrender value in a Variable Account Option will ever equal or exceed the total amount of your Purchase Payments received by us.

### Surrender Restrictions

Generally, Code section 403(b)(11) permits total or partial distributions from your voluntary contributions to a 403(b) contract only on account of hardship (employee contributions only without accrued interest), attainment of age 59½, separation from service, death or disability. Similar restrictions apply to any amount transferred to a 403(b) contract from a 403(b)(7) custodial account. In addition, beginning for contracts issued on or after January 1, 2009, employer contributions and non-elective contributions to a 403(b) annuity contract are subject to restrictions specified in Treasury regulations as specifically imposed under the employer's plan.

Under the *Texas State Optional Retirement Program*, no surrender or partial surrender will be allowed except upon attainment of age 70 1/2, retirement or other termination of employment or death.

Under the *Florida State Optional Retirement Program*, no surrender or partial surrender of Purchase Payments made by the employer will be allowed except upon termination of employment, retirement or death. Benefit payments based on



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payments from the employer may not be paid in a lump sum or for a period certain, but must be paid under a life contingency option, except for:

- death benefits; and
- certain small amounts approved by the State of Florida.

Under the *Louisiana State Optional Retirement Plan* retirement benefits must be paid in the form of a lifetime income, and except for death benefits, single sum surrenders and partial surrenders out of the plan are not permitted unless they are rollovers to another qualified plan or IRA.

Other employer-sponsored plans may also impose restrictions on the timing and form of surrenders from the Contract.

## Exchange Privileges

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From time to time, we may allow you to exchange an older variable annuity issued by VALIC for a newer product with more current features and benefits issued by VALIC. Such an exchange offer will be made in accordance with applicable state

## Partial Surrenders

You may request a partial surrender of your Account Value at any time during the Purchase Period, subject to any applicable surrender restrictions. A partial surrender will reduce your Account Value. Partial surrenders will be paid from the Fixed Account Option and the Variable Account Option.

The reduction in the number of Purchase Units credited to your Account Value will equal:

The amount surrendered	÷ <b>(divided by)</b>	Your Purchase Units next computed after the written request for surrender is received at our Home Office.
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## Death Benefits

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The Contracts will pay death benefits during either the Purchase Period or the Payout Period. The death benefit provisions may vary from state to state.

### The Process

VALIC requires that complete and acceptable documentation and paperwork be received from the Beneficiary in order to begin the death benefit payment process. First, Proof of Death is required. Proof of Death is defined as a certified copy of the death certificate, a certified copy of a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction as to death, a written statement by an attending physician, or any other proof satisfactory to VALIC. Additionally, the Beneficiary must include an election specifying the distribution method and any other form required by VALIC or a regulator to process the claim. The account will not be valued and any payments will not be made until all paperwork is complete and in a form acceptable to VALIC. Your Beneficiary may contact a VALIC financial professional at 1-800-448-2542 with any questions about required documentation and paperwork. Death benefits are paid only once per Contract.

If your Account Value is reduced to zero, you may no longer make subsequent Purchase Payments or transfers, and no death benefit will be paid.

and federal securities and insurance rules and regulations. We will explain the specific terms and conditions of any such exchange offer at the time the offer is made.

## Beneficiary Information

The Beneficiary may receive death benefits:

- In a lump sum;
- In the form of an annuity under any of the payout options stated in the Payout Period section of this prospectus subject to the restrictions of that payout option; or
- In a manner consistent with Code section 401(a)(9) or 72(s).

Payment of any death benefits must be within the time limits set by federal tax law and by the plan, if any.

*Spousal Beneficiaries.* A spousal Beneficiary may receive death benefits as shown above or, in the case of a qualified Contract, may either delay any distributions until the Annuitant would have reached age 72 or roll the funds over to an IRA or certain retirement plans in which the spousal Beneficiary participates.

*Beneficiaries Other Than Spouses.* If the Beneficiary is not the spouse of the Annuitant, death benefits must be paid:

- In full within 5 years after the year of the Annuitant's death; or

- By payments beginning within 1 year after the year of the Annuitant's death under:
  1. A life annuity;
  2. A life annuity with payments guaranteed to be made for at least a specified fixed period; or
  3. An annuity or other stream of payments for a designated period not exceeding the Beneficiary's life expectancy.

If the Annuitant dies before the beginning of the Annuity Period, the named Beneficiary may receive the payout.

Payments for a designated or fixed period and guarantee periods for a life annuity cannot be for a greater period of time than the Beneficiary's life expectancy. After choosing a payment option, a Beneficiary may exercise many of the investment options and other rights that the Participant or Contract Owner had under the Contracts.

### During the Purchase Period

If death occurs during the Purchase Period, the death benefit will be the greater of:

- Your Account Value on the date all paperwork is complete and in a form acceptable to VALIC; *or*
- 100% of Purchase Payment (to the Fixed and/ or the Variable Account Option)
  - **(minus)**  
The amount of all prior withdrawals and any portion of Account Value applied under a payout option

As indicated above, a Participant may elect to annuitize only a certain portion and leave the remaining value in the account. The death benefit in such situations would include the value of the amount remaining in the account minus the amount applied

to Payout Payments. Depending on the payout option selected, there may also be a death benefit from the annuitized portion of the account.

### During the Payout Period

If death occurs during the Payout Period, the Beneficiary may receive a death benefit depending on the payout option selected. The amount of death benefit will also depend on the payout option selected. The payout options available are described in the "Payout Period" section of this prospectus.

- If the life only option or joint and survivor life option was chosen, there will be no death benefit.
- If the life with guaranteed period option, joint and survivor life with guaranteed periods option, life with cash or unit refund option or payment for a designated period option was chosen, and the entire amount guaranteed has not been paid, the Beneficiary may choose one of the following within 60 days after death benefits are payable:
  1. Receive the present value of any remaining payments in a lump sum;
  2. Receive the remaining payments under the same terms of the guaranteed period option chosen by the deceased Annuitant and be entitled to elect anytime thereafter to receive the present value of any remaining payments in a lump sum; *or*
  3. Receive the present value of any remaining payments applied under the payment for a designated period option for a period equal to or shorter than the period remaining. Spousal Beneficiaries may be entitled to more favorable treatment under federal tax law.

Death Benefits will not be provided during the Payout Period for certain unallocated GUP and GTS-VA Contracts.

## Other Contract Features

### Changes That May Not Be Made

The following terms in the Contracts may not be changed once your account has been established:

- The Contract Owner;
- The Participant; and
- The Annuitant.

### Change of Beneficiary

The Beneficiary (if not irrevocable) may usually be changed at any time.

Under some retirement programs, the right to name a Beneficiary other than the spouse or change a Beneficiary is subject to approval by the spouse. Also, the right to name a Beneficiary other than the spouse may be subject to certain laws and regulations applicable to the plan.

If the Annuitant dies, and there is no Beneficiary, any death benefit will be payable to the Annuitant's estate, except in the case of a nonqualified Contract where the Contract Owner and Annuitant are different, in which case the death benefit is paid to the Contract Owner, or the Contract Owner's estate.

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If a Beneficiary dies while receiving payments, and there is no co-Beneficiary to continue to receive payments, any amount still due will be paid to the Beneficiary's estate.

The Contract Owner may name a contingent owner under an individual nonqualified Contract. During the Purchase Period, the contingent owner may be changed.

### **Cancellation — The “Free Look” Period**

The Contract Owner of a group Contract (employer) or individual Contract Owner may cancel a Contract by returning it to the Company within 10 days after it is received. (A longer period will be allowed if required under state law.) The free look does not apply to Participant certificates except in a limited number of states. We will allocate Purchase Payments as instructed during the “free look” period. To cancel the Contract, the Contract Owner must send a written request for cancellation and return the Contract to us at our Home Office before the end of the “Free Look” period. A refund will be made to the Contract Owner within seven days after receipt of the Contract within the required period. The amount of the refund will be equal to all Purchase Payments received or, if more, the amount required under state law. The Contract will be void once we issue a refund.

### **We Reserve Certain Rights**

We may amend the Contracts to comply with changes in federal tax, securities, or other laws. We may also make changes to the Variable Account Option offered under the Contracts. For example, we may add new Variable Account Options to expand the offerings for an asset class. We may move assets and re-direct future premium allocations from one Variable Account Option to another in accordance with federal and state law and, in some cases, with SEC approval. The new Variable Account Option offered may have different Fund fees and expenses.

We will not make any changes to the Contracts without Contract Owner and Participant permission except as may be allowed by federal or state law. We may add endorsements to the Contracts that would apply only to new Contract Owners and Participants after the effective date of the changes. These changes would be subject to approval by the Company and may be subject to approval by the SEC.

We reserve the right to:

- Stop accepting new Participants under a group Contract, under certain circumstances;
- Amend the GUP Contracts to increase all charges and annuity purchase rates (such change will not affect Participants already invested in a GUP Contract);

- Amend the GUP Contracts (except where prohibited by the 1940 Act) for Participants whose total Purchase Payments are greater than 200% of the amount of first-year Purchase Payment(s) made on his/her behalf;
- Amend GUP contracts issued under GUP contract form GVA-SA1 after five years of your participation in the Contract to change any terms of the Contract upon 90 days written notice to you (except where prohibited by the 1940 Act);
- Amend GTS-VA Contracts issued under GTS-VA contract form GVA-SA2 in connection with certain 403(b) and 401 plans for self-employed individuals to increase the deduction for Sales and Administrative Charge after the end of the first year of the Contract. Contract amendments may affect rates and Fund Annual Expenses adversely applicable to Participants for Purchase Payments at an annual rate of up to 200% of the first year Purchase Payment made for each such Participant;
- Amend the Payout rate applicable to Purchase Payments after the tenth year of the Contract; Operate VALIC Separate Account A as a management investment company under the applicable securities laws, in consideration of an investment management fee or in any other form permitted by law;
- Deregister VALIC Separate Account A under applicable securities laws, if registration is no longer required.

### **Relationship to Employer’s Plan**

If the Contract is being offered under a retirement plan through your employer, you should always refer to the terms and conditions in your employer’s plan when reviewing the descriptions of the Contracts in this prospectus.

### **Assigning Your Contract**

For most Contracts issued under qualified retirement plans or eligible deferred compensation plans of government employers, you will not be permitted to assign, sell or pledge your Contract to any person or organization, other than the Company, unless your contract is owned by a trustee or custodian and the trust or custodial accounts comply with applicable nontransferable requirements. GUP Contracts not issued under GUP contract form GVA-SA1 and GTS-VA Contracts that are issued under GTS-VA contract form GVA-SA2 are not assignable unless permitted under applicable law. GUP Contracts that are issued under GUP contract form GVA-SA1 are not assignable.

## Voting Rights

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As discussed in the “About VALIC Separate Account A” section of this prospectus, VALIC Separate Account A holds on your behalf shares of the Fund that comprise the Variable Account Option. From time to time the Stock Index Fund may be required to hold a shareholder meeting to obtain approval from their shareholders for certain matters.

### Who May Give Voting Instructions

During the Purchase Period, subject to any contrary provisions in the plan, Participants will have the right to give voting instructions for the shareholder meetings. Contract Owners will instruct VALIC Separate Account A in accordance with these instructions. You will receive proxy material and a form on which voting instructions may be given before the shareholder meeting is held.

You will not have the right to give voting instructions if your Contract was issued in connection with a nonqualified unfunded deferred compensation plan.

### Determination of Fund Shares Attributable to Your Account

*During the Purchase Period.* The number of Fund shares attributable to your account will be determined on the basis of the Purchase Units credited to your account on the record date set for the Fund shareholder meeting.

## Federal Tax Matters

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The Contracts provide tax-deferred accumulation over time, but may be subject to certain federal income and excise taxes, mentioned below. Refer to the SAI for further details. Section references are to the Code. We do not attempt to describe any potential estate or gift tax, or any applicable state, local or foreign tax law other than possible premium taxes mentioned under “Premium Tax Charge.” Discussions regarding the tax treatment of any annuity contract or retirement plans and programs are intended for general purposes only and are not intended as tax advice, either general or individualized, nor should they be interpreted to provide any predictions or guarantees of a particular tax treatment. Such discussions generally are based upon the Company’s understanding of current tax rules and interpretations, and may include areas of those rules that are more or less clear or certain. Tax laws are subject to legislative modification, and while many such modifications will have only a prospective application, it is important to recognize that a change could have retroactive effect as well. You should seek competent tax or legal advice, as you deem necessary or appropriate, regarding your own circumstances.

*During the Payout Period or After a Death Benefit has been Paid.* The number of Fund shares attributable to your account will be based on the liability for future variable annuity payments to your payees on the record date set for the Fund shareholder meeting.

### How Fund Shares are Voted

The Fund that comprises the Variable Account Option in the Contracts may have a number of shareholders including VALIC Separate Account A, other affiliated insurance company separate accounts and public shareholders.

VALIC Separate Account A will vote all of the shares of the Fund it holds based on, and in the same proportion as, the instructions given by all Participants invested in the Fund entitled to give instructions at that shareholder meeting. VALIC Separate Account A will vote the shares of the Fund it holds for which it receives no voting instruction in the same proportion as the shares for which voting instructions have been received. One effect of proportional voting is that a small number of Contract Owners may determine the outcome of a vote.

In the future, we may decide how to vote the shares of VALIC Separate Account A in a different manner if permitted at that time under federal securities law.

### Types of Plans

Tax rules vary, depending on whether the Contract is offered under your employer’s tax-qualified retirement program, an individual retirement plan, or is instead a nonqualified Contract. The Contracts are used under the following types of retirement arrangements:

- Section 403(b) annuities for employees of public schools and section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations;
- Section 401(a), 403(a) and 401(k) qualified plans (including plans for self-employed individuals);
- Section 408(b) traditional IRAs;
- Section 408A Roth IRAs;
- Section 457 deferred compensation plans of governmental and tax-exempt employers;
- Section 408(k) SEPs and SARSEPs; and
- Section 408(p) SIMPLE retirement accounts.

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Contributions under any of these retirement arrangements generally must be made to a qualifying annuity Contract or to a qualifying trust or custodial account, in order for the contributions to receive favorable tax treatment as pre-tax (or Roth) contributions. Contracts purchased under these retirement arrangements are “Qualified Contracts.” Note that the specific terms of the governing employer plan may limit rights and options otherwise available under a Contract. In addition, changes in the applicable laws or regulations may impose additional limitations or may require changes to the contract to maintain its status as a Qualified Contract.

### **Tax Consequences in General**

Purchase Payments, distributions, withdrawals, transfers and surrender of a Contract can each have a tax effect, which varies with the governing retirement arrangement. Please refer to the detailed explanation in the SAI, the documents (if any) controlling the retirement arrangement through which the Contract is offered, and your personal tax advisor.

Purchase Payments under the Contracts can be made as contributions by employers or as pre-tax or after-tax contributions by employees, depending on the type of retirement program. Purchase Payments also can be made outside of an employer-sponsored retirement program. After-tax Purchase Payments, including after-tax employee contributions, generally constitute “investment in the Contract.” All Qualified Contracts receive deferral of tax on the inside build-up of earnings on invested Purchase Payments, until a distribution occurs. *See the SAI for a discussion of the taxation of distributions, including upon death, and special rules, including those applicable to non-natural owners of nonqualified Contracts.*

Transfers among investment options within a variable annuity Contract generally are not taxed at the time of such a transfer. However, in 1986, the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) indicated that limitations might be imposed with respect to either the number of investment options available within a Contract, or the frequency of transfers between investment options, or both, in order for the Contract to be treated as an annuity Contract for federal income tax purposes. If imposed, VALIC can provide no assurance that such limitations would not be imposed on a retroactive basis to Contracts issued under this prospectus. However, VALIC has no present indications that the IRS intends to impose such limitations, or what the terms or scope of those limitations might be. In addition, based upon published guidance issued by the IRS in 1999, it appears likely that such limitations, if imposed, would only apply to nonqualified Contracts.

Distributions are taxed differently depending on the program through which the Contracts are offered and the previous tax characterization of the contributions to which the distribution

relates. Generally, the portion of a distribution that is not considered a return of investment in the Contract is subject to income tax. For annuity payments, investment in the Contract is recovered ratably over the expected payout period. Special recovery rules might apply in certain situations. Non-periodic payments such as partial withdrawals and full surrenders during the Purchase Period are referred to as “amounts not received as an annuity” in the Code. These types of payments are generally taxed to the extent of any gain existing in the Contract at the time of withdrawal.

Amounts subject to income tax may also incur excise or penalty taxes, under certain circumstances. Generally, as more fully discussed in the SAI, taxable distributions received before you attain age 59½ are subject to a 10% penalty tax in addition to regular income tax, unless you make a rollover, in the case of a Qualified Contract, to another tax-deferred investment vehicle or meet certain exceptions. Note that a distribution from a 457(b) plan is not subject to the 10% tax penalty. And, if you have to report the distribution as ordinary income, you may need to make an estimated tax payment by the due date for the quarter in which you received the distribution, depending on the amount of federal tax withheld from the distribution. When calculating your tax liability to determine whether you need to make an estimated tax payment, your total tax for the year should also include the amount of the 10% additional tax on early distributions unless an exception applies. Amounts eligible for grandfathered status afforded to pre-1982 accounts might be exempt from the 10% early withdrawal penalty. Please consult with your tax advisor concerning these exceptions, tax reporting, and the tax-related effects of an early distribution. Required tax withholding will vary according to the type of program, type of payment and your tax status. In addition, amounts received under all Contracts may be subject to state income tax withholding requirements.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 created other distribution events and exemptions from the 10% early withdrawal penalty tax. These include payments to certain reservists called up for active duty after September 11, 2001 and payments up to \$3,000 per year made directly to an insurer for health, life and accident insurance by certain retired public safety officers. The Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017 and the Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts of 2017 provided relief from the 10% early withdrawal penalty tax for qualified 2016 disaster distributions from retirement funds.

On March 30, 2010, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act (“Reconciliation Act”) was signed into law. Among other provisions, the Reconciliation Act imposes a tax on net investment income, goes into effect in 2013, at the rate of 3.8% of investment income in excess of applicable thresholds for Modified Adjusted Gross Income (\$250,000 for joint filers; \$125,000 for married individuals filing separately; and, \$200,000 for individual filers). An individual with MAGI in



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excess of the threshold will be required to pay this tax on net investment income in excess of the applicable MAGI threshold. For this purpose, net investment income generally will include taxable withdrawals from a Non-Qualified contract, as well as other taxable amounts including amounts taxed annually to an owner that is not a natural person (see final paragraph in this section). This tax generally does not apply to Qualified Contracts; however, taxable distributions from such contracts may be taken into account in determining the applicability of the MAGI thresholds.

On December 20, 2019 the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act was signed into law as part of larger appropriations legislation. The SECURE Act includes many provisions affecting Qualified Contracts, some of which became effective upon enactment or on January 1, 2020, and certain provisions were retroactively effective. Some of the provisions effective January 1 include: an increase in the age at which required minimum distributions (RMDs) generally must commence, to age 72, from the previous age of 70½; new limitations on the period for beneficiary distributions following the death of the plan participant or IRA owner; elimination of the age 70½ restriction on IRA contributions (combined with an offset to the amount of eligible qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) by the amount of post-70½ IRA contributions); a new exception to the 10% additional tax on early distributions, for the birth or adoption of a child, which also became an allowable plan distribution event; and, reduction of the earliest permissible age for in-service distributions from pension plans and certain Section 457 plans to 59½. The foregoing is not an exhaustive list. The SECURE Act included many additional provisions affecting Qualified Contracts.

In 2019 and 2020 the IRS issued multiple letter rulings to individual insurance companies recognizing the ability, in specific circumstances, to treat the payment of investment advisory fees to an investment advisor out of nonqualified contracts as non-taxable withdrawals from the contracts. IRS letter rulings generally may only be relied upon by the party to whom they are issued.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was signed into law on March 27, 2020, provides greater access to assets held in tax-qualified retirement plans and IRAs. The relief provided in the Act:

- Expanded distribution and loan (including loan repayment) rules for certain retirement accounts in employer plans and IRAs, for qualifying distributions;
- Waived the 10% additional tax on the qualifying distributions, if they are considered early distributions (generally, distributions prior to age 59½); and
- Provided a temporary waiver of required minimum distributions from qualifying retirement plans and IRAs due to be paid in 2020.

Some provisions in the Act are subject to the terms of an employer's retirement plan.

It is the understanding of VALIC, confirmed by IRS Revenue Procedure 99-44, that a Qualified Contract described in section 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408(b) or 408A of the Code does not lose its deferred tax treatment if Purchase Payments under the Contract are invested in publicly available Mutual Funds.

It is also the understanding of VALIC that for each other type of Qualified Contract an independent exemption provides tax deferral regardless of how ownership of the Mutual Fund shares might be imputed for federal income tax purposes.

Investment earnings on contributions to nonqualified Contracts that are owned by non-natural persons (except for trusts or other entities as agent for a natural person) will be taxed currently to the Contract Owner and such Contracts will not be treated as annuities for federal income tax purposes.

#### *Important Information Regarding 403(b) Regulations*

On July 26, 2007, the Department of the Treasury published final 403(b) regulations that became largely effective on January 1, 2009. These comprehensive regulations include several rules and requirements, such as a requirement that employers maintain their 403(b) plans pursuant to a written plan. The final regulations, subsequent IRS guidance, and the terms of the written plan may impose restrictions on both new and existing contracts, including restrictions on the availability of loans, distributions, transfers and exchanges, regardless of when a contract was purchased.

In general, certain contracts originally established by a 90-24 transfer prior to September 25, 2007 are exempt (or grandfathered) from some of the requirements of the final regulations; provided that no salary reduction or other contributions have ever been made to the contract, and that no additional transfers are made to the contract on or after September 25, 2007. Further, contracts that are not grandfathered were generally required to be part of, and subject to the requirements of an employer's 403(b) plan upon its establishment, but no later than by January 1, 2009.

The rules in the final regulations generally do not affect a participant's ability to transfer some or all of a 403(b) account to a state-defined benefit plan to purchase service credits, where such a transfer is otherwise consistent with applicable rules and requirements and with the terms of the employer's plan.

As a general matter, many Contracts that have received plan contributions after 2004, and all Contracts that have received plan contributions after 2008, are required to be included in the plan and in the plan's administrative coordination, even if the

investment provider and the Contract are no longer permitted to receive new contributions and/or transfers. However, IRS guidance generally permits a plan sponsor to exclude a Contract where the plan sponsor has otherwise made a good faith effort to include the Contract issued by a provider that ceased to receive contributions prior to January 1, 2009, as well as such Contracts maintained by certain former employees. You should be aware, however, that some rules governing contracts inside and outside of the plan after 2008 are subject to different interpretations, as well as possible

additional IRS guidance. In addition, a Contract maintained under a plan subject to the requirements of Title I of Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") may be required to be included in the plan regardless of whether it remains eligible to receive contributions after a specified date. The foregoing discussion is intended as a general discussion of the requirements only, and you may wish to discuss the requirements of the regulations and/or the general information above with your tax advisor.

## Legal Proceedings

There are no pending legal proceedings affecting the Separate Account. Various federal, state or other regulatory agencies may from time to time review, examine or inquire into the operations, practices and procedures of the Company, such as through financial examinations, subpoenas, investigations, market conduct exams or other regulatory inquiries. Based on the current status of pending regulatory examinations, investigations and inquiries involving the Company, the Company believes that none of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the ability of the principal underwriter

to perform its contract with the Registrant or of the depositor to meet its obligations under the variable annuity contracts.

Various lawsuits against the Company have arisen in the ordinary course of business. As of April 27, 2021, the Company believes that none of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the ability of the principal underwriter to perform its contract with the Registrant or of the depositor to meet its obligations under the variable annuity contracts.

## Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Company, the Separate Account and American Home (if applicable to you) are available on the SEC's web site (<http://www.sec.gov>). You may request a free copy of the Statement of Additional Information, which includes the financial statements, by contacting our Annuity Service

Center at 1-800-448-2542 or by mail at Annuity Service Center, P.O. Box 15570, Amarillo, Texas 79105-5570. We encourage both existing and prospective contract owners to read and understand the financial statements.

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