

GCU's Aquila Fixed Indexed Annuities offer higher growth potential than traditional fixed annuities while also guaranteeing income for retirement.







# Dedicated to Main Street, not Wall Street.

Being a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society founded by blue-collar laborers more than 130 years ago, we're a bit different from most other insurance carriers. We're member owned, not publicly traded. We focus our efforts on the communities we serve and strive to provide a personal touch in what can be an impersonal world. We're hometown people of faith committed to protecting the assets of families like yours.

As a GCU customer you become a Member of an organization dedicated to protecting families, promoting faith and fellowship, and strengthening communities.

GCU by the Numbers:\* 133+ Years in Business

48,700+ Members across America

**\$2.8** Billion in Assets under Management

\$206 Million Surplus (Net Worth)

**\$240.5** Million Total Adjusted Capital (TAC)

109.4% Solvency Ratio by Total Adjusted Capital

A- (Excellent) AM Best Financial Strength Rating\*\*

For the latest rating, access ambest.com. Learn more at GCUusa.com.

<sup>\*</sup> March 31, 2025

<sup>\*\*</sup>A- (Excellent) rated by AM Best since 1980. AM Best is a third-party independent credit rating agency that rates an insurance company on the basis of the company's financial strength, operating performance and ability to meet its obligations to policyholders. A- is the third highest rating out of 13 categories and was affirmed for GCU in October 2024.





## Bringing you the best of both worlds

GCU Aquila Series Fixed Indexed Annuities are insurance products designed to offer **principal protection** *plus* **growth potential**. In one contract you can build your nest egg and have confidence it will always be there for you.

Aquila X
(ah-KWIL-ah TEN)

A 10-year fixed indexed annuity designed to enhance performance potential while offering a lifetime income benefit and total control of where your funds are allocated.

Aquila V (ah-KWIL-ah FIVE) A five-year fixed indexed annuity developed for those wanting the benefits of an index-based annuity but with a shorter-term commitment.



#### Why "Aquila?"

Our fixed indexed annuities are named after the celestial "eagle" constellation Aquila. GCU has always featured a star and an eagle as part of our identity, representing forward vision and strength. That combination is fundamental to the intended performance of our Aquila annuity products.

Aquila Series products leverage the strength of **two proven Barclays indices** to strive for the optimum balance of performance and stability.

# THE WORKHORSE & THE RACEHORSE

What happens when we combine a dependable, hard-working index with a dynamic, high-performance index? You get a reliable workhorse and the winning potential of a thoroughbred.

#### **Barclays Zorya 5% Index**

Combines the S&P 500 and US Bond Aggregate index and applies Modern Portfolio Theory to continually enhance returns while managing risk exposure. Think of Zorya as the "workhorse" that strives for reliable and consistent performance (but not typically high returns).

#### **Barclays US Tech 12% Index**

Uses market capitalization to capture the returns of the largest non-financial stocks listed on the Nasdaq. US Tech is the "racehorse" with greater propensity for high performance (but less predictability).

While both indices follow the markets to maximize growth and stability, your money is never directly exposed to the markets.

## **Balance Growth**

# How is index interest credited to your account?

GCU applies the Participation Rate to the Barclays index returns when positive changes occur from one year to the next. Even if index returns are negative, your contract value will never be reduced. Any gains are yours to keep.

For Aquila X, the Barclays Zorya 5% index participation rate will always be at least 100%, or 75% with the Guaranteed Minimum Index Strategy Interest Rate (GMIR), during the contract surrender charge period. The Barclays US Tech 12% index will never fall below 40%, or 35% with the GMIR, during the contract surrender charge period.

In comparison, the minimum participation rates for Aquila V are Barclays Zorya 5% Index—85% or 75% with GMIR and Barclays US Tech Index—40% or 35% with GMIR.



## and Security. Confidently.



#### **Earning Your Confidence. Keeping You in Control.**

Growth of your Aquila Series annuity comes in the accumulation of earned interest and index credits. How your premium is allocated to produce that interest is your decision.

#### Aquila annuities earnings potential comes in two distinct ways:

- 1. A fixed annual rate (declared at the start of each contract year) is applied for the first year and is guaranteed to be at least 1.0%.
- 2. The value of your annuity can grow through index returns linked to the performance of each of the Barclays indices.

#### **PARTICIPATION RATE**

Your designated portion of market gains. It defines the percentage of interest earnings that is to be applied to your account.

#### How the Participation Rate Works:

(Hypothetical Example)

Participation rate: 115%

Barclays Zorya beginning value: 100 Barclays Zorya ending value: 107

#### **FORMULA:**

Increase in Index = (Ending Value – Beginning Value) / Beginning Value (107 - 100) / 100 = 7% increase in Index

Interest Credited = (Increase in Index) x (Participation Rate)

7% x 115% = 8.05% interest credited

**You control where your premium goes.** You have the flexibility to tailor your Aquila Series annuity to fit your overall retirement strategy. On your own or with guidance from your GCU Agent, you can decide how to allocate your premium (fixed interest, indexed interest or a combination of both). You have the ability to reallocate available funds at each anniversary of your contract.

**Want to infuse more money?** No problem! Aquila Series annuities allow you to add to the principal of your contract during the first contract year.



# **Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal**Benefit Riders

#### Rest assured your income stream will always flow.

You're guaranteed to receive a set amount each year for as long as you live, even if your income stream reduces your account balance to zero.

#### **STANDARD RIDERS**

These lifetime income benefit riders are included free of charge and the owner may choose when to start and stop payments.

Income Elevate™

Calculated by multiplying an Income Factor by the account value to establish your lifetime annual payment amount.

(See rider for details)

Income Elevate PLUS™
(Aquila X Only)

Like *Income Elevate* but adds a no-fee Premium Bonus.

Participation rates will differ from other income options.

(See rider for details)

# The **Premium Bonus** is determined by each applicant's Issue Age:

The Premium Bonus is applied to premiums paid, interest credits, withdrawals, and other transactions impacting your base contract value and also applies to your income benefit base.



#### **BONUS PERCENTAGES FOR AQUILA X:**

- •Bonus = 10% when issue age is 75 or lower
- •Bonus = **7.5**% when issue age is **76-80**
- •Bonus = 5% when issue age is 81+

Available only when the *Income Elite* or *Income Elevate PLUS* rider is selected

#### **BONUS PERCENTAGES FOR AQUILA V:**

- •Bonus = 3% when issue age is 75 or lower
- •Bonus = 2% when issue age is 76-80
- •Bonus = 1% when issue age is 81+

Available only when the *Income Elite* rider is selected

## ESTABLISHING THE INCOME BENEFIT BASE

- **Account Value**
- + Interest Credits (1x or 2x\*)
- + Premium Bonus (if applicable)

#### **Income Benefit Base**

\* Income Elevate and Income Elevate PLUS apply a 1x multiplier of interest credits. Optional Income Pro and Income Elite riders introduce a 2x multiplier of interest credits during the 10-year (Aquila X) or 5-year (Aquila V) surrender charge period.

#### **OPTIONAL RIDERS**

Enhanced Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Benefit Riders are available as performance options for an annual fee. The owner may choose when to start and stop payments.

Option Package	GLWB Rider	Fee	<b>Enhanced Benefit Base Credits</b>	Premium Bonus Rider
Income Pro	Enhanced	.50	Yes	No
Income Elite	Enhanced	.95	Yes	Yes
Income Elevate	Standard	None	No	No
Income Elevate Plus	Standard	None	No	Yes

Above table applies to both the Standard Riders section and this Optional Riders section.

#### **WE CALL THEM**

# Living Benefit Riders. YOU'LL CALL THEM peace of mind.

As an organization dedicated to serving the needs of families, we offer valuable Living Benefit Riders.

After the first contract year, you may be eligible for the following:

#### Terminal Illness Rider\*

Receive up to 100% of the account value should you be diagnosed with a terminal illness having a life expectancy of 12 months or less.

#### Nursing Home Rider\*

Get up to 100% of the account value in the event you become continually confined to facility care (restrictions apply).

#### Wellness Benefit Enhancement Rider\*\*

Should you become unable to physically perform routine daily activities\*\*\* and require Home Health Care Services, you may be eligible to collect Enhanced Withdrawals (age, waiting period, and set criteria must be met to qualify).

- \* Not available in California
- \*\* In California, this is called the Enhanced Withdrawal Benefit Rider
- \*\*\* Eligibility for Enhanced Withdrawals under this rider is not triggered by cognitive impairment or dementia





At GCU, we do all we can to ensure you have a robust annuity product. We also want you to have **the best retirement experience possible**.

No caps, no spreads, and no MVAs You choose the income option that's right for you

Access your money without penalty\* Compound your penalty-free withdrawal benefit

Pay no tax until you take money out Beneficiaries receive full or remaining account value You have an escape route: guaranteed cash value

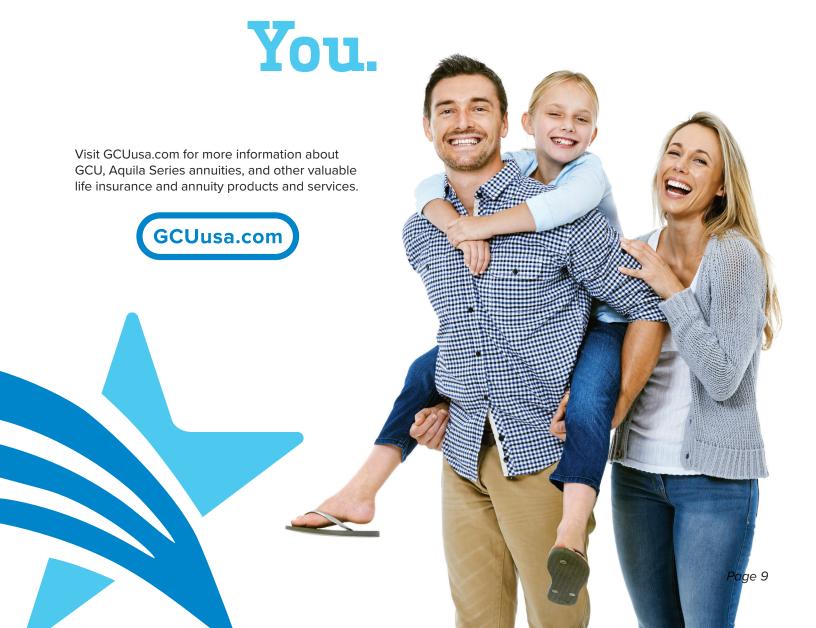
The guaranteed minimum index strategy interest rate (GMIR) is available for all index crediting strategies

Talk to a GCU Agent or visit GCUusa.com for details. GCU does not dispense tax advice.

Always consult with your tax advisor about your particular situation.

# The Bottom Line.

An Aquila Series Fixed Indexed Annuity offers the upside growth potential you want, the downside protection you need, and the access to your money you'll appreciate—all from a fraternal organization that puts one thing first:





- Enhanced growth potential compared to traditional fixed annuities
- An exceptional balance of growth potential and asset protection
- Guaranteed income for life—you'll never outlive your money\*
- Powered by Barclays Zorya 5% Index and Barclays US Tech 12% Index
- An exceptional experience designed around you and your needs
- No caps, no spreads, no market value adjustments (MVA)
- GCU's 130+ year history of serving the financial and human needs of the community
- You're more than a customer ... you're a Member!

\*Dependent upon payment option elected at time of annuity settlement.



#### Talk with a Pro

See how an Aquila Fixed Indexed Annuity can be an excellent part of your retirement planning. Schedule time with your GCU Agent for expert guidance and help selecting the right Aquila Fixed Indexed Annuity and best options for your unique needs.





#### **Contract Features**

Modified Single Premium (additional premiums allowed Year 1)

Issue Age: 0-90

Non-Qualified/Qualified Funds (IRA, Roth IRA, SEP IRA)

Contracts are Issued Daily

Minimum Premium: \$10.000

Maximum Premium: \$1,000,000 (larger amounts will be considered w/prior home office approval)

10-year Surrender Charge Schedule: 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1%, .5% (CA only: 8%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1%, 0%)

Penalty-Free Withdrawals: 10% of the account value starting Year 2

#### Aquila X Income Options

#### **Income Elevate:**

- No fee
- Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (GLWB) Rider

#### **Income Pro:**

- .50 fee
- · Enhanced Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (Enhanced GLWB) Rider
- Enhanced Benefit Base Credits

#### **Income Elite:**

- .95 fee
- Enhanced Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (Enhanced GLWB) Rider
- Enhanced Benefit Base Credits
- Includes a bonus feature:

Bonus = 10% when issue age 75 or lower

Bonus = 7.5% when issue age 76-80

Bonus = 5% when issue age 81+

#### **Income Elevate PLUS:**

- No fee
- Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (GLWB) Rider
- Includes a bonus feature:

Bonus = 10% when issue age 75 or lower

Bonus = 7.5% when issue age 76-80

Bonus = 5% when issue age 81+

#### **Interest Crediting Strategies**

Fixed Account – The first-year rate is fixed and after that, GCU may declare a new rate at any time, but never below the Guaranteed Interest Rate.

One-Year Point-to-Point Index Strategy with Participation Rate

Two-Year Point-to-Point Index Strategy with Participation Rate

Two indices available

#### **Embedded Riders**

Cumulative Free Withdrawal Rider Terminal Illness Rider\* Nursing Home Rider\* Wellness Benefit Enhancement Rider\*\*



<sup>\*\*</sup> Called the Withdrawal Enhancement Benefit Rider in California





#### **Contract Features**

Modified Single Premium (additional premiums allowed Year 1)

Issue Age: 0-90

Non-Qualified/Qualified Funds (IRA, Roth IRA, SEP IRA)

Contracts are Issued Daily Minimum Premium: \$10,000

Maximum Premium: \$1,000,000 (larger amounts will be considered w/prior home office approval)

5-year Surrender Charge Schedule: 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5% (CA only: 8%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%)

Penalty-Free Withdrawals: 10% of the account value starting Year 2

#### Aquila V Income Options

#### **Income Elevate:**

- No fee
- Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (GLWB) Rider

#### **Income Pro:**

- .35 fee
- Enhanced Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (Enhanced GLWB) Rider
- Enhanced Benefit Base Credits

#### **Income Elite:**

- .45 fee
- Enhanced Guaranteed Minimum Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (Enhanced GLWB) Rider
- Enhanced Benefit Base Credits
- · Includes a bonus feature:

Bonus = 3% when issue age 75 or lower

Bonus = 2% when issue age 76-80

Bonus = 1% when issue age 81+

#### **Interest Crediting Strategies**

Fixed Account – The first-year rate is fixed and after that, GCU may declare a new rate at any time, but never below the Guaranteed Interest Rate.

One-Year Point-to-Point Index Strategy with Participation Rate

Two indices available

#### **Embedded Riders**

Terminal Illness Rider\*
Nursing Home Rider\*
Wellness Benefit Enhancement Rider\*\*

- \* Not available in California
- \*\* Called the Withdrawal Enhancement Benefit Rider in California

The Guaranteed Minimum Index Strategy Interest Rate (GMIR) is available on all index crediting strategies (Aquila X & Aquila V products), ensuring a positive return regardless of market performance. The GMIR provides a safety net for contract holders, guaranteeing that their account value will increase on the anniversary of their contract, excluding any withdrawals or applicable fees, even in adverse market conditions.



### **Lifetime Income Factors**

Single Life						
Attained Age	Income Factor					
50-55	3.50%					
56	3.60%					
57	3.70%					
58	3.80%					
59	3.90%					
60	4.00%					
61	4.10%					
62	4.20%					
63	4.30%					
64	4.40%					
65	4.50%					
66	4.60%					
67	4.70%					
68	4.80%					
69	4.90%					
70	5.00%					
71	5.10%					
72	5.20%					
73	5.30%					
74	5.40%					
75	5.50%					
76	5.60%					
77	5.70%					
78	5.80%					
70	5.90%					
80+	6.00%					

Joint Life							
Attained Age	Income Factor						
50-55	3.00%						
56	3.10%						
57	3.20%						
58	3.30%						
59	3.40%						
60	3.50%						
61	3.60%						
62	3.70%						
63	3.80%						
64	3.90%						
65	4.00%						
66	4.10%						
67	4.20%						
68	4.30%						
69	4.40%						
70	4.50%						
71	4.60%						
72	4.70%						
73	4.80%						
74	4.90%						
75	5.00%						
76	5.10%						
77	5.20%						
78	5.30%						
70	5.40%						
80+	5.50%						



## **Understanding Fees and Other Charges**

When you withdraw all funds from your annuity (a full surrender) or portions (a partial surrender), you may forfeit some or all your credited interest. You may also be required to pay a surrender charge, depending on how long you have had the annuity, as shown in the schedules below.

Aquila X										
	Surrender Charge Schedule:									
Contract Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Surrender Charge	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	0.50%
California Only	8%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	0%
Income Elite Bonus Recapture Schedule:										
Contract Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Recapture Percentage	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%
Income Elevate PLUS Bonus Recapture Schedule:										
Contract Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Recapture Percentage	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%

Aquila V								
Surrender Charge Schedule:								
Contract Year	1	2	3	4	5			
Surrender Charge	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%			
California Only	8%	8%	7%	6%	5%			
Income Elite Bonus Recapture Schedule:								
Contract Year	1	2	3	4	5			
Recapture Percentage	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%			



#### **DISCLAIMERS**

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#### **Products issued by**



- For FL and MO: "GCU, A Fraternal Benefit Society"
-For CA and GA: "GCU Financial Life, A Fraternal Benefit Society"

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