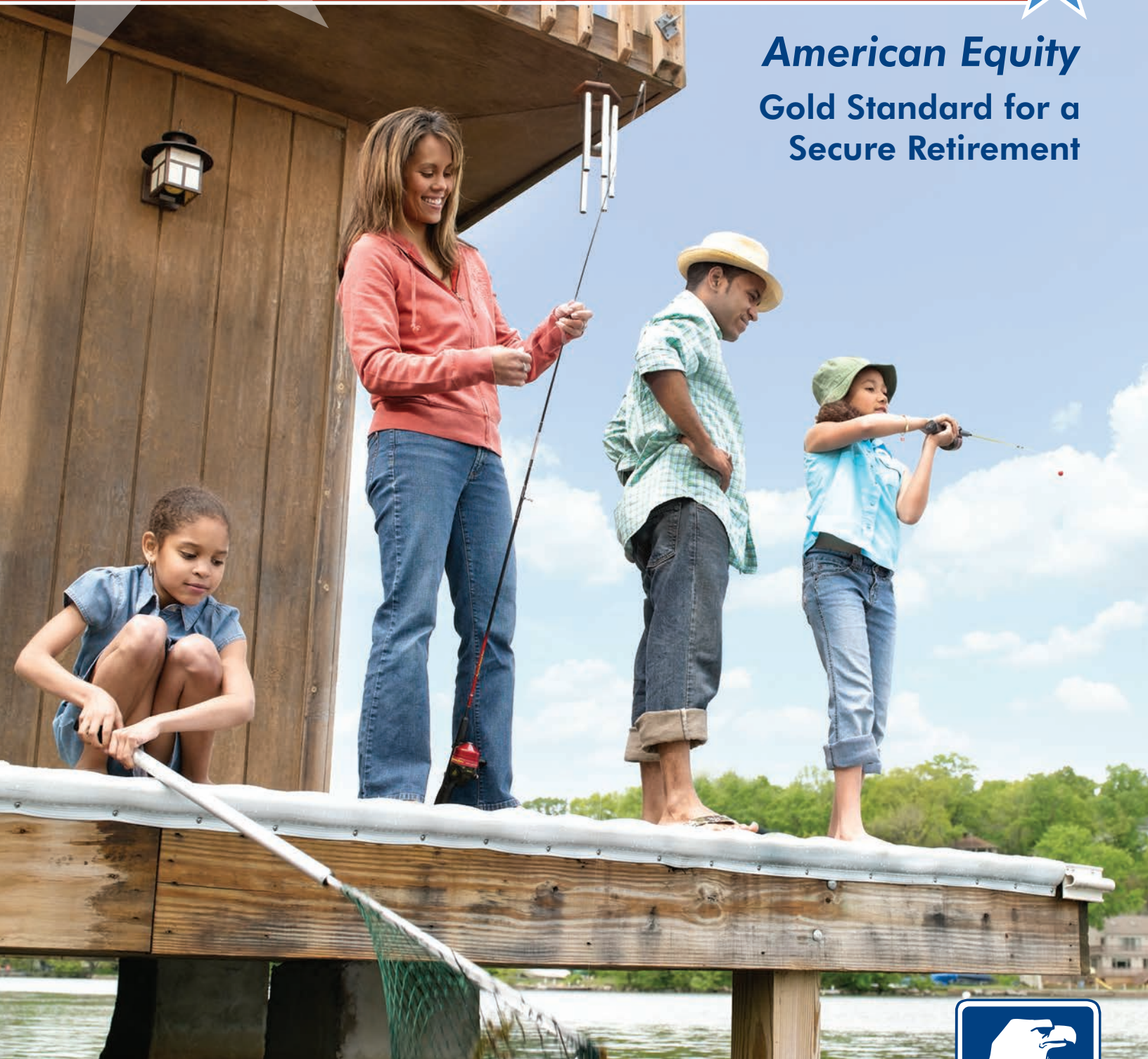


# Foundation Gold

*American Equity*  
Gold Standard for a  
Secure Retirement



The one who works for you!™



# Foundation Gold

## A Good Plan is Always Better Than a Good Guess

The security of your future begins today with sound planning and building a dependable source for lifetime income.

Starting with our easy-to-understand product descriptions, American Equity works with you to find the retirement solutions that fit your day-to-day lifestyle as you prepare for your life-long goals.

Every day we work hard to provide safe, secure products backed by our award-winning customer service. And, each day people make the right choice to start planning with us for the life they want — with a strategy they understand.

## We Can Help You Get to Where You Want to Go

As a hard-working individual you take your finances seriously. You have invested your time and energy in order to build as well as sustain a quality of life that suits you and your family. As you plan for retirement, it is important to consider any number of factors that can affect your lifestyle:

- Safety of retirement dollars
- Tax effect on your standard of living
- Family illness
- Money saved for retirement

## Indexed Annuities: The Right Product for the Right Time

Indexed annuities are fixed indexed annuities that provide an opportunity to potentially earn more interest than traditional fixed annuities and other safe money alternatives.

This is done by basing interest earned on an increase in an equity or bond index. You control your annuity by choosing the crediting method on each Contract Anniversary. The most commonly used indices are:

- S&P 500®
- S&P 500® Dividend Aristocrats® Daily Risk Control 5% Index
- 10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond

While the value of this Contract may be affected by an external index, this annuity does not participate directly in any stocks or equity investments. You aren't buying shares of stock or an index. Dividends paid on the stocks that comprise the indexes don't increase your annuity earnings.





## Are You Prepared?

- 46% of Americans have less than \$10,000 saved for retirement. (Employee Benefit Research Institute, 2013)
- 40% of baby boomers now plan on working until they die. (AARP, 2010)
- 36% of Americans say they don't contribute anything at all to their savings. (Careerbuilder.com, 2009)
- 87% of adults say they are not confident about having enough money for a comfortable retirement. (Lifehappens.org, 2014)

# Foundation Gold

## Safety in Numbers

Most importantly, your Premium and credited interest can never be lost due to Index Volatility. Your indexed annuity is actually a Contract backed by American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company®; you are not purchasing shares of stock or indices. Your funds are safe and secure with us – one of the leading annuity providers on the market.

## Security You Can Plan For

As you plan for your retirement, whether it is a far off goal or soon-to-be reality, our innovative tax-deferred annuities can help you maximize growth while not compromising the safety of your hard earned dollars.

Your nest egg can be affected by any number of conditions. As your partner in planning, American Equity has outlined five core considerations for your retirement future:

- Safety of Principal
- Guaranteed Income
- Liquidity
- Income Taxes
- Avoidance of Probate

## Safety of Principal

Fixed annuities, by their very nature, are considered a safe money alternative. Your Annuity Contract is between you and the insurance company for guaranteed interest and guaranteed income options. This means your guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of American Equity.

## Guaranteed Income

American Equity provides you with a guaranteed income with this tax-deferred annuity. You have the ability to choose from several different options, including payments for a specified number of years or income for life — no matter how long you live.

## Liquidity

American Equity provides you with opportunities to withdraw funds at any time (subject to applicable Surrender Charges). Our Annuity Contracts allow Penalty-free Withdrawals of up to 5% after the first Contract Anniversary. A cumulative Penalty-free Withdrawal option is available. See page 6 for details.

American Equity also has available certain Riders that increase liquidity in the event of confinement to a nursing home, or if diagnosed with a terminal illness. (Riders not available in all states.)

### **Please note:**

You may be subject to a 10% federal penalty if you make withdrawals or surrender this annuity before age 59½. If this Annuity Contract is within a qualified plan all distributions may be taxable. Under current tax laws, annuities grow tax deferred. An annuity is not required for tax deferral in a qualified plan. Any distribution may cause a taxable event. Neither American Equity nor our agents offer legal, investment or tax advice. Please consult your own personal advisor for these matters.

We may change your Annuity Contract from time to time to follow federal or state laws and regulations. If we do, we'll tell you about the changes in writing.

Your state has a law that gives you a set number of days to look at an annuity after you buy it. If you decide during that time that you don't want it, you can return the annuity and get all your money back. Please review your Contract after delivery to confirm the number of days you have.

Like any annuity issuer, American Equity incurs expenses to sell and issue its contracts, including the payment of a commission to its agents, and these expenses are taken into consideration when interest rates, caps, asset fees and participation rates are established and reset. You will receive all benefits as set forth in the Contract.

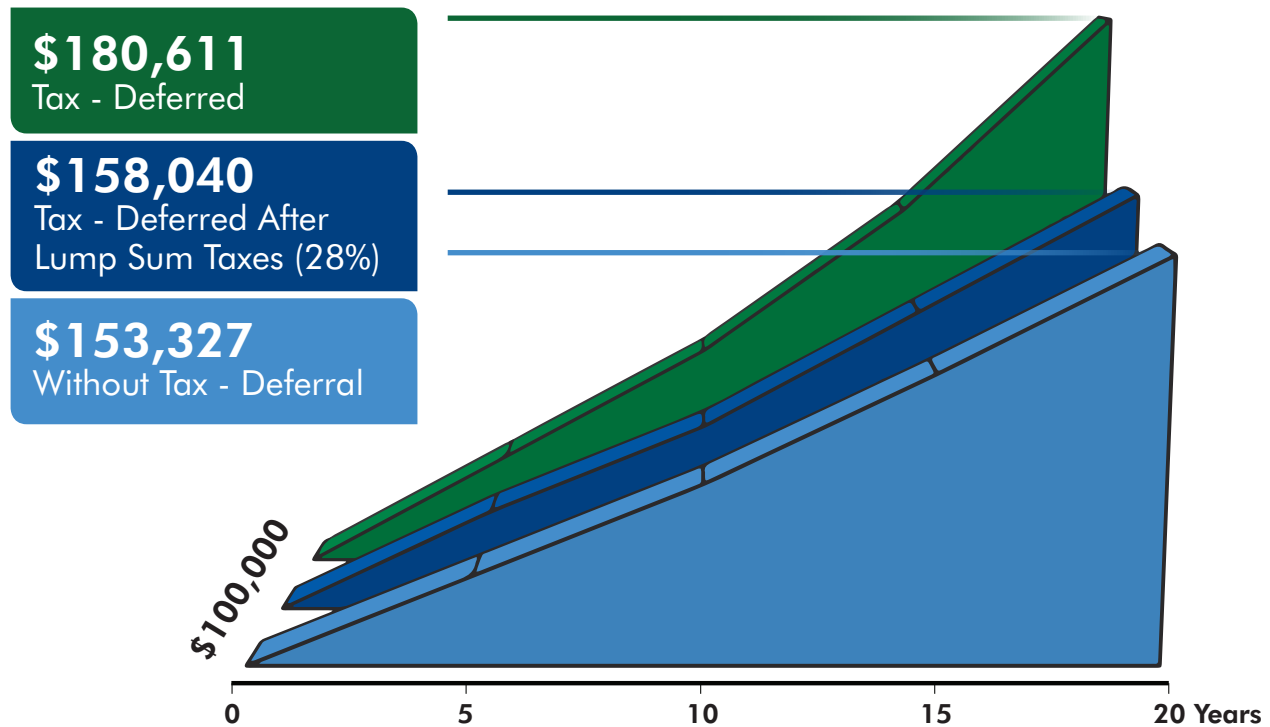
## Income Taxes

One of the primary advantages of deferred annuities is the opportunity to accumulate a substantial sum of money by allowing your Premium and interest to grow tax-deferred. Unlike taxable investments, you pay no taxes on your annuity interest until you begin to take withdrawals or receive income. This allows your money to grow faster than in a taxable account.

With our annuities you earn interest on your Premium, interest on your interest and interest on what you would normally pay in income taxes.

The chart below demonstrates how much more your money grows over a 20-year period with a tax-deferred annuity compared to an account that is currently taxed.

### Taxable vs. Tax-Deferred



Note: Example assumes 3% annual interest rate and 28% tax bracket.  
This hypothetical example is for demonstration only.

## Avoidance of Probate

When planning for the future, a central concern is for our loved ones after we are gone. In the case of premature death, your beneficiaries have the accumulated funds within your annuity available to them and may avoid the expenses and delay of probate. Your named beneficiaries can choose to receive the proceeds as monthly income or a lump-sum payment.

# Foundation Gold

## Gold Standard in Retirement Planning

Foundation Gold is a fixed indexed annuity that allows for the accumulation of money over a long period of time. Because of the Bonus credited on all Premium paid in the first Contract Year, it allows for a more rapid accumulation of interest than other fixed annuities. The Bonus is applied to your Contract Value immediately, but is vested over time. In addition, we vest the Bonus 100% immediately in the event of death, the beneficiary receives the entire Contract Value, including 100% of the Bonus.

So, just how do the Interest Crediting and Bonus Vesting features of Foundation Gold work, and how do they affect your long-term accumulation of wealth for retirement? Let's take a look.

## Premium Payment & Allocation

You may direct your Initial Premium payment in any combination you choose, into either the Fixed Value or any of the Indexed Values. Any additional Premium payments you make after your Initial Premium will automatically go into the Fixed Value. At each Contract Anniversary, you may choose to transfer between the different values, giving you greater flexibility.

Your Contract Value equals the sum of your Fixed Value, plus your Indexed Value. Your Accrued Premium Amount is the portion of the Contract Value resulting from Premiums paid plus Interest, less withdrawal amounts.

## Interest Crediting

You have 10 different value options to choose from in determining how we will credit interest to your Contract Values. Additionally, we provide a Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate which guarantees you a minimum return upon Surrender. We calculate all interest rates as effective annual rates, compounded daily.

To calculate withdrawal or surrender amounts we track interest credits to Accrued Premium Amount and Accrued Bonus Amount on a pro-rata basis.

## Bonus

We guarantee a 7% Premium Bonus on all Premiums received in the first Contract Year. We add this bonus to the Contract Value on the date we receive the Premiums, and we allocate it to the same values as your Premiums.

Accrued Bonus Amount is the portion of the Contract Value resulting from the Bonus, plus interest, less withdrawal amounts. Surrender Charges do not apply to your Accrued Bonus Amount.

## Bonus Vesting

The Bonus vests over a 10-year period. Each year after the first Contract Year, you become vested in a percentage of the Bonus, until you become 100% vested at the end of the tenth Contract Year. The vested amounts on the Bonus are the amounts that you do not forfeit as a result of an early Partial Withdrawal or Surrender.

If you take a Partial Withdrawal or Surrender you will receive the vested portion of your Bonus according to the following schedule.

**1. At Partial Withdrawal** – the pro-rata portion of the Partial Withdrawal Amount allocated to your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage; or

Premium Bonus Vesting Schedule	
Contract Yr	% Vested
1	0.00
2	10.00
3	20.00
4	30.00
5	40.00
6	50.00
7	60.00
8	70.00
9	80.00
10	90.00
11+	100.00

**2. At Surrender** – your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage minus the non-vesting portion of any Penalty-free Withdrawals taken from your Accrued Bonus Amount in the last 12 months.

The Bonus is always 100% vested in the Death Benefit.

## Withdrawals

You may make withdrawals from your Contract Value at any time. Withdrawals include Penalty-free Withdrawals and Partial Withdrawals. We will determine withdrawal proceeds taking into consideration any Penalty-free Amount available, any Surrender Charges, and Bonus Vesting.

### 1. Penalty-free Withdrawals

Once each Contract Year, after the first anniversary, you may take one Penalty-free Withdrawal of up to 5% of the Contract Value. If the Penalty-free Withdrawal is not taken in any Contract Year, it may be carried over to the next Contract Year for a maximum Penalty-free Withdrawal of 10%. Penalty-free Withdrawals are not subject to Surrender Charges and Bonus Vesting.

### 2. Partial Withdrawals

You may make Partial Withdrawals at any time. We will first determine any amount of the Partial Withdrawal that would be penalty-free. Amounts above the Penalty-free amount are subject to Surrender Charges and Bonus Vesting Schedule.

All withdrawals are pro-rated between the Accrued Premium Amount and the Accrued Bonus Amount of the Contract Value. We apply a Surrender Charge to your Accrued Premium Amount and vesting to your Accrued Bonus Amount. **Withdrawals in excess of the Penalty-free Withdrawal Amount will cause loss of part of your Accrued Bonus Amount.**

## Death Benefit

The Death Benefit is the full Contract Value of your Annuity Contract and is paid in a lump sum with no Surrender Charges, plus 100% Bonus Vesting, to your named beneficiaries. Other income options may also be available.

## Accessibility – 5% Penalty-Free Withdrawals

We understand that access to your money is very important. This annuity offers an annual 5% Penalty-free Withdrawal once each year, beginning in year two. A cumulative withdrawal is available. Please see Withdrawals section above. In the first year, you may receive Systematic Withdrawals of interest or Required Minimum Distributions from the Fixed Interest Account as quickly as 30 days after your Contract is issued.<sup>1</sup>

## Nursing Care Rider (NCR-100)<sup>2</sup>

This Rider is automatically included at no cost, for annuitants under age 75 at issue. This allows you to take a 100% Penalty-free Withdrawal after the third Contract Anniversary if confinement in a Qualified Nursing Care Center occurs after the end of the third Contract Year and continues for at least 90 consecutive days. If confinement occurs in the second or third Contract Year, then a 20% Penalty-free Withdrawal is allowed.

## Terminal Illness Rider (TIR-100)<sup>2</sup>

This Rider is automatically included at no cost, for annuitants under age 75 at issue. This allows you to take an additional Penalty-free Withdrawal of up to 100% of the Contract Value if the diagnosis of a terminal illness by a qualified physician occurs after the first Contract Year, and is expected to result in death within one year.

# Foundation Gold

## Indices Used

Foundation Gold offers the following indices:

- **The S&P 500 Index** contains stocks from 500 various industry leaders and is widely regarded as a leading benchmark for U.S. stock market performance.
- **The S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Daily Risk Control 5% Index** is a volatility control index that consists of the S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Index and a cash component (accruing interest at 3 Month LIBOR). The Index is dynamically adjusted between the two components to target a 5% level of volatility. The S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Index is made up of S&P 500 members that have followed a policy of consistently increasing dividends every year for at least 25 consecutive years. This Index is well diversified across all market sectors.
- **10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond** is a government-issued debt designed to mirror general market interest rates.

## Index Crediting Method

To allow you greater flexibility in utilizing our interest crediting methods, American Equity's offers nine index choices and one fixed value choice. The annuity structure allows for annual transfer between different values. A Transfer of Values (TOV) letter and form are sent one month prior to the Contract Anniversary as a courtesy to you.

- **Annual Monthly Average** – Index Credits are based on 12 dates during the year. The average is calculated by adding the 12 Index amounts on each monthly date and dividing by 12. Caps or Participation Rates are applied to the Index Credit Calculation.
- **Annual Point to Point** – On each Contract Anniversary the Index Value is compared to the previous year's Index Value. The Index Credit is based on increase in the Index Value from point to point. Caps or Participation Rates are applied to the Index Credit Calculation.
- **Monthly Point to Point** – Each month a percentage of change is calculated. Caps are applied to any increase. The sum of the resulting monthly values is the Index Credit applied on each Contract Anniversary.

	<b>Annual Monthly Average</b>	<b>Annual Point to Point</b>	<b>Monthly Point to Point</b>
<b>Interest Credit Calculation</b>	Average sum of index closes on monthly Contract Anniversary	Percentage of annual increase in the Index	Annual sum of monthly changes in the Index
<b>Index Availability</b>	S&P 500	S&P 500 & 10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond	S&P 500
<b>Frequency of Interest Credit</b>	Annually	Annually	Annually
<b>Cap, Asset Fee Rate (AFR) or Participation Rate Available</b>	Choice of Cap or Participation Rate	Choice or Cap or Participation Rate (S&P 500 only)	Cap



- **Performance Triggered (PT)** – On each Contract Anniversary the PT Index Price is compared to the previous anniversary’s PT Index Price. The PT Rate is credited if the PT Index Price on the current Contract Anniversary is equal to or greater than the previous Contract Anniversary’s Index Price. The minimum PT Rate is 1%.
- **Bond Yield with Cap (BYC)** – On each Contract Anniversary the Bond Price is compared to the Bond Price on the previous anniversary. The Index Credit is based on the decrease in the Bond Price. The BYC Interest Credit Calculation is determined by first applying the Cap followed by the Asset Fee.
- **Volatility Control Index** – On each Contract Anniversary the Index Value is compared to the previous year’s Index Value. The Index Credit is based on the increase in the Index Value from point to point, less an Asset Fee.
- **Fixed Interest** – This is based on a current declared interest rate guaranteed to never be less than Fixed Value Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate stated in the Annuity Contract.

### Calculation Information:

- **Cap Rate** – Applies to Annual Monthly Average, Annual Point to Point, and Monthly Point to Point Crediting Methods.
  - An upper limit applies to the Index Credit. Cap rates are subject to change, declared each Contract Anniversary, and guaranteed to never be less than 1%. –OR–
- **Cap Rate/Asset Fee Rate** – Applies to the Bond Yield with Cap Crediting Method.
  - **Cap Rate** – An upper limit applies to the Index Credit. Cap rates are subject to change, declared each Contract Anniversary, and guaranteed to never be less than 1%. (and)
  - **Asset Fee Rate (AFR)** – A deduction used in calculation of Index Credit. AFR is set at issue, and guaranteed for the life of the Annuity Contract. –OR–
- **Participation Rate (PR)** – Applies to Annual Monthly Average or Annual Point to Point Crediting Methods.
  - The stated percentage of any Index increase credited to the Annuity Contract. PRs are subject to change, declared annually and guaranteed to never be less than 10%. –OR–
- **Asset Fee Rate Only (AFR)** – Applies only to Volatility Control Index Crediting Method.
  - A deduction used in calculation of Index Credit. The AFR is subject to change, declared each Contract Anniversary and guaranteed to never be more than 10%.

	<b>Performance Triggered (PT)</b>	<b>Bond Yield with Cap</b>	<b>Volatility Control Index</b>	<b>Fixed Interest</b>
	PT Index Price equal to or greater than the previous anniversary’s PT Index Price	Percentage of annual decrease in the Bond Price	Percentage of annual increase in the index less an asset fee	Fixed Interest Rate Declared
	S&P 500	10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond	S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Daily Risk Control 5% Index	Not Applicable
	Annually	Annually	Annually	Daily
	Not applicable	Cap & AFR	AFR only	Not Applicable

# Foundation Gold

## Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value (MGSV)

At no time will the Surrender Value of the Contract be less than 87.5% of Premium received, less any Withdrawals, accumulated at Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate stated in the Contract. The MGSV is a separate calculation from Contract Value.

## Cash Surrender Value

The Cash Surrender Value is the amount we pay if you Surrender the Contract. It equals the greater of the Accrued Premium Amount minus any Surrender Charges, plus the Vested portion of the Accrued Bonus Amount, or the Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value.

## Surrender Charges

We deduct a Surrender Charge on Partial Withdrawals or Surrenders during the Surrender Charge Period according to the following schedule:

1. At Partial Withdrawal, the Partial Withdrawal from your Accrued Premium Amount multiplied by the Surrender Charge percentage; or
2. At Surrender, your Accrued Premium Amount, plus any Penalty-free Withdrawals from your Accrued Premium Amount in the last 12 months, multiplied by the Surrender Charge Percentage.

Surrender Charge	
Contract Yr	Surrender Charge % Age 18-80
1	9.00
2	8.25
3	7.25
4	6.25
5	5.25
6	4.25
7	3.25
8	2.25
9	1.00
10	0.50
11+	0.00



## American Equity The One Who Works for You!

- \$41 Billion in Assets
- 35,000 Active Agents
- 540,000 Active Contract Owners
- 400+ Employees
- #3 All-Time in Indexed Annuity Sales<sup>3</sup>
- A- (Excellent) Rating From A.M. Best<sup>4</sup>
- A- (Strong) Rating From S&P 500<sup>5</sup>
- American-Owned and Operated

Liabilities as of 12/31/2015 are \$39 Billion.



# Foundation Gold



## Indexed Annuity Disclosure

American Equity's Foundation Gold allows for long-term accumulation of money you don't anticipate needing in the short term. Foundation Gold is a Flexible Premium Deferred Indexed Annuity.

### Bonus

Credited on all first year Premiums, the Bonus increases your Contract Value by 7%. We add the Bonus to the Contract Value on the date we receive Premiums and allocate it to the same values as your Premiums. The Bonus Amount is vested over a 10 year period. Starting in the second Contract Year, a percentage of the Bonus becomes guaranteed annually. That percentage increases each year through the 10th Contract Year according to the Bonus Vesting Schedule shown below. The Bonus is 100% fully vested in the Death Benefit and Income Account Value as of the Contract Date.

Surrender Charges may be higher in Contracts with a Premium Bonus than in Contracts without a Premium Bonus and may exceed Premium Bonus. Caps and Participation Rates may also be lower in Contracts with a Premium Bonus and may exceed the amount of the Premium Bonus.

### Additional Contract Information

**Contract Value:** The sum of the Fixed Value and the Indexed Values. It is calculated each Contract Anniversary.

**Accrued Premium Amount:** The portion of the Contract Value resulting from your Premiums.

**Accrued Bonus Amount:** The portion of the Contract Value resulting from the Bonus.

**Cash Surrender Value:** The amount payable at Surrender during the Bonus Vesting Schedule Period equals the greater of:

- (1) Accrued Premium Amount minus any applicable Surrender Charges, plus the Vested portion of your Accrued Bonus Amount; or
- (2) Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value.

### Surrender Charges

We apply Surrender Charges on Partial Withdrawals or Surrenders during the Surrender Charge Period as follows:

- **At Partial Withdrawal** - the amount resulting from your Accrued Premium Amount multiplied by the Surrender Charge Percentage; or
- **At Surrender** - the Accrued Premium Amount, plus any Penalty-free Withdrawals from your Accrued Premium Amount in the last 12 months, multiplied by the Surrender Charge Percentage. **Surrender Charges do not apply to your Accrued Bonus Amount.**

### Surrender Charge and Bonus Vesting Schedule

Issue Ages 18-80

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
SC%	9.00	8.25	7.25	6.25	5.25	4.25	3.25	2.25	1.00	0.50	0.00
Bonus Vesting%	0.00	10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	50.00	60.00	70.00	80.00	90.00	100

Surrender Charges may vary by state.

The Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value equals 87.5% of Premiums paid, minus any withdrawals, all accumulated at the Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate-Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value (MGIR-MGSV).

## Accessibility

You may make withdrawals from your Annuity Contract. Withdrawals include amounts withdrawn under both the Penalty-free Withdrawal and Partial Withdrawal options. We allow Penalty-free Withdrawals of up to 5% of your Contract Value once each Contract Year after the first. If the Penalty-free Withdrawal is not taken in any Contract Year, it may be carried over to the next Contract Year for a maximum Penalty-free Withdrawal of 10%. Please see page six of the attached product guide for more information. Withdrawals will be deducted from both the Accrued Premium Amount and Accrued Bonus Amount on a pro-rata basis, and you will receive the Vested portion of your bonus, calculated as follows:

- **At Partial Withdrawal** - the pro-rata portion of the Partial Withdrawal Amount allocated to your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage; or
- **At Surrender** - your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage minus the non-Vested portion of any Penalty-free Withdrawals taken from your Accrued Bonus Amount in the last 12 months.

Maturity Date is the date annuity payments must begin. You may begin receiving distributions from this Contract before the Maturity Date.

### Death Benefit

The Death Benefit is payable in a variety of ways. Your Beneficiary(ies) will have access to your Contract's full value. Death Benefit payment options are a lump sum payout, the guaranteed income of annuitization, penalty-free and continued tax deferral if you are a spouse. The Death Benefit is the greater of the Contract Value or Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value at the death of the Annuitant or Owner, whichever comes first.

### Tax Treatment

You may be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty if you make withdrawals or Surrender this Annuity before age 59½. If this Annuity is within a qualified plan all distributions may be taxable. Under current tax laws, Contract Values accumulate and grow tax deferred. An Annuity is not required for tax deferral in a qualified plan. Any distribution may cause a taxable event. Neither American Equity nor our agents offer legal, investment, or tax advice. Please consult your own personal advisor for these matters.

### Minimum Guarantees

The Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate is set on the Issue Date and is guaranteed for the life of the Annuity Contract. It is guaranteed to never be less than 1.50%, and applies to Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value only. The Fixed Value Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate is 1%.

Owner's Initials

# Foundation Gold

## Calculating Index Credit

Your Contract Value equals the sum of the Fixed and Indexed Values. The Fixed Value is calculated based on a Fixed Interest Rate rather than an Index Credit; and the Fixed Value Guaranteed Initial Interest Rate is applicable to your Initial Premium only. If you add additional Premiums to your Contract, they may be subject to different rates. The total Indexed Value is the sum of all of the Indexed Value calculations. American Equity applies Index Credit on your Contract Anniversary. You will also have the benefit of an annual reset of Index Credits. Your Index Credits become part of the Contract Value once credited and can never be lost or taken away from your Contract Value due to market volatility.

## Choosing Your Value Allocations

As a Contract Owner, you will choose how to allocate your Total Initial Premium. You may make additional Premium payments in any amount and frequency within the Premium limits. Additional Premiums are automatically credited to the Fixed Value. The Annuity Contract offers additional flexibility by allowing you to transfer money in or out of any value on each Contract Anniversary, subject to these minimums:

- The minimum Initial Premium is \$10,000.
- The minimum allocation for each value is \$1,000.
- The minimum transfer to select a new value is 10% of the Contract Value.

### Total Initial Premium Allocation:

Percentages must be whole numbers. Decimals will NOT be accepted.

Our ten interest crediting method values offer a variety of choices:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ % Traditional Fixed Value Interest Rate
2. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Annual Monthly Average w/Cap
3. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Monthly Average w/PR
4. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Pt. to Pt. w/ Cap
5. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Pt. to Pt. w/PR
6. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P Monthly Pt. to Pt. w/ Cap
7. \_\_\_\_\_ % 10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond w/ Cap and AFR
8. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Performance Trigger
9. \_\_\_\_\_ % Bond Yield w/Cap & AFR
10. \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Dividend Aristocrats<sup>®</sup> Daily Risk Control 5% Index w/AFR

100%

(For a detailed description of each crediting method refer to page 7 of attached product guide.)

PR = Participation Rate, AFR = Asset Fee Rate

Annuity Contract issued under form series ICC11 IDX3 and state variations thereof. Availability may vary by state.

The "S&P<sup>®</sup>" is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC ("SPDJI"), and has been licensed for use by American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company<sup>®</sup>. Standard & Poor's<sup>®</sup> and S&P<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"); Dow Jones<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones"); Standard & Poor's<sup>®</sup> and S&P<sup>®</sup> are trademarks of the SPDJI; and these trademarks have been licensed for use by SPDJI and sublicensed for certain purposes by American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company<sup>®</sup>. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company's<sup>®</sup> Foundation Gold is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by SPDJI, Dow Jones, S&P, their respective affiliates and none of such parties make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such product(s) nor do they have any liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions of the S&P.

This disclosure is intended to summarize this annuity. Consult your Annuity Contract for specific terms and conditions of your annuity. Annuity Contracts are products of the insurance industry and are not guaranteed by any bank or insured by the FDIC.

**If you are replacing an existing Contract, carefully compare the benefits of the proposed Contract with your existing Contract to ensure your decision is in your best interest.**

I have read and received a copy of this document and understand I can request a copy of the NAIC Buyer's Guide. **I understand I am applying for an indexed annuity and that past Interest and Index activity is not intended to predict future activity.** I also acknowledge that a Full Surrender or Withdrawal over penalty-free amounts taken within the Surrender Charge Period or Bonus Vesting Period will result in Surrender Charges being assessed, a forfeiture of a percentage of my Bonus, and potential loss of Premium.

Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Amount of Premium Received

\$ _____	Received From _____
Amount _____	Owner's Name _____
_____	Date _____
_____	Agent's Name - Please Print _____
_____	Agent's Signature _____

Agent's Statement - I certify that I have provided a copy of this document to the applicant and I have made no promises or assurances regarding values of the Annuity Contract, nor have I made statements that differ from this disclosure.

Agent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Agent's State License Number \_\_\_\_\_

American Equity Investment  
Life Insurance Company<sup>®</sup>  
6000 Westown Parkway  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266  
life.american-equity.com  
888-221-1234



SEE YOUR CONTRACT FOR CURRENT RATES. NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT ALL PAGES.

# Foundation Gold



## Indexed Annuity Disclosure

American Equity's Foundation Gold allows for long-term accumulation of money you don't anticipate needing in the short term. Foundation Gold is a Flexible Premium Deferred Indexed Annuity.

### Bonus

Credited on all first year Premiums, the Bonus increases your Contract Value by 7%. We add the Bonus to the Contract Value on the date we receive Premiums and allocate it to the same values as your Premiums. The Bonus Amount is vested over a 10 year period. Starting in the second Contract Year, a percentage of the Bonus becomes guaranteed annually. That percentage increases each year through the 10th Contract Year according to the Bonus Vesting Schedule shown below. The Bonus is 100% fully vested in the Death Benefit and Income Account Value as of the Contract Date.

Surrender Charges may be higher in Contracts with a Premium Bonus than in Contracts without a Premium Bonus and may exceed Premium Bonus. Caps and Participation Rates may also be lower in Contracts with a Premium Bonus and may exceed the amount of the Premium Bonus.

### Additional Contract Information

**Contract Value:** The sum of the Fixed Value and the Indexed Values. It is calculated each Contract Anniversary.

**Accrued Premium Amount:** The portion of the Contract Value resulting from your Premiums.

**Accrued Bonus Amount:** The portion of the Contract Value resulting from the Bonus.

**Cash Surrender Value:** The amount payable at Surrender during the Bonus Vesting Schedule Period equals the greater of:

- (1) Accrued Premium Amount minus any applicable Surrender Charges, plus the Vested portion of your Accrued Bonus Amount; or
- (2) Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value.

### Surrender Charges

We apply Surrender Charges on Partial Withdrawals or Surrenders during the Surrender Charge Period as follows:

- **At Partial Withdrawal** - the amount resulting from your Accrued Premium Amount multiplied by the Surrender Charge Percentage; or
- **At Surrender** - the Accrued Premium Amount, plus any Penalty-free Withdrawals from your Accrued Premium Amount in the last 12 months, multiplied by the Surrender Charge Percentage. **Surrender Charges do not apply to your Accrued Bonus Amount.**

### Surrender Charge and Bonus Vesting Schedule

Issue Ages 18-80

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
SC%	9.00	8.25	7.25	6.25	5.25	4.25	3.25	2.25	1.00	0.50	0.00
Bonus Vesting%	0.00	10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	50.00	60.00	70.00	80.00	90.00	100

Surrender Charges may vary by state.

The Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value equals 87.5% of Premiums paid, minus any withdrawals, all accumulated at the Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate-Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value (MGIR-MGSV).

## Accessibility

You may make withdrawals from your Annuity Contract. Withdrawals include amounts withdrawn under both the Penalty-free Withdrawal and Partial Withdrawal options. We allow Penalty-free Withdrawals of up to 5% of your Contract Value once each Contract Year after the first. If the Penalty-free Withdrawal is not taken in any Contract Year, it may be carried over to the next Contract Year for a maximum Penalty-free Withdrawal of 10%. Please see page six of the attached product guide for more information. Withdrawals will be deducted from both the Accrued Premium Amount and Accrued Bonus Amount on a pro-rata basis, and you will receive the Vested portion of your bonus, calculated as follows:

- **At Partial Withdrawal** - the pro-rata portion of the Partial Withdrawal Amount allocated to your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage; or
- **At Surrender** - your Accrued Bonus Amount multiplied by the Bonus Vesting percentage minus the non-Vested portion of any Penalty-free Withdrawals taken from your Accrued Bonus Amount in the last 12 months.

Maturity Date is the date annuity payments must begin. You may begin receiving distributions from this Contract before the Maturity Date.

### Death Benefit

The Death Benefit is payable in a variety of ways. Your Beneficiary(ies) will have access to your Contract's full value. Death Benefit payment options are a lump sum payout, the guaranteed income of annuitization, penalty-free and continued tax deferral if you are a spouse. The Death Benefit is the greater of the Contract Value or Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value at the death of the Annuitant or Owner, whichever comes first.

### Tax Treatment

You may be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty if you make withdrawals or Surrender this Annuity before age 59½. If this Annuity is within a qualified plan all distributions may be taxable. Under current tax laws, Contract Values accumulate and grow tax deferred. An Annuity is not required for tax deferral in a qualified plan. Any distribution may cause a taxable event. Neither American Equity nor our agents offer legal, investment, or tax advice. Please consult your own personal advisor for these matters.

### Minimum Guarantees

The Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate is set on the Issue Date and is guaranteed for the life of the Annuity Contract. It is guaranteed to never be less than 1.50%, and applies to Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value only. The Fixed Value Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate is 1%.

Owner's Initials

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# Foundation Gold

## Calculating Index Credit

Your Contract Value equals the sum of the Fixed and Indexed Values. The Fixed Value is calculated based on a Fixed Interest Rate rather than an Index Credit; and the Fixed Value Guaranteed Initial Interest Rate is applicable to your Initial Premium only. If you add additional Premiums to your Contract, they may be subject to different rates. The total Indexed Value is the sum of all of the Indexed Value calculations. American Equity applies Index Credit on your Contract Anniversary. You will also have the benefit of an annual reset of Index Credits. Your Index Credits become part of the Contract Value once credited and can never be lost or taken away from your Contract Value due to market volatility.

## Choosing Your Value Allocations

As a Contract Owner, you will choose how to allocate your Total Initial Premium. You may make additional Premium payments in any amount and frequency within the Premium limits. Additional Premiums are automatically credited to the Fixed Value. The Annuity Contract offers additional flexibility by allowing you to transfer money in or out of any value on each Contract Anniversary, subject to these minimums:

- The minimum Initial Premium is \$10,000.
- The minimum allocation for each value is \$1,000.
- The minimum transfer to select a new value is 10% of the Contract Value.

### Total Initial Premium Allocation:

Percentages must be whole numbers. Decimals will NOT be accepted.

Our ten interest crediting method values offer a variety of choices:

- \_\_\_\_\_ % Traditional Fixed Value Interest Rate
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Annual Monthly Average w/Cap
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Monthly Average w/PR
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Pt. to Pt. w/ Cap
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Annual Pt. to Pt. w/PR
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P Monthly Pt. to Pt. w/ Cap
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 10-Year U.S. Treasury Bond w/ Cap and AFR
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500 Performance Trigger
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Bond Yield w/Cap & AFR
- \_\_\_\_\_ % S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Dividend Aristocrats<sup>®</sup> Daily Risk Control 5% Index w/AFR

100%

(For a detailed description of each crediting method refer to page 7 of attached product guide.)

PR = Participation Rate, AFR = Asset Fee Rate

Annuity Contract issued under form series ICC11 IDX3 and state variations thereof. Availability may vary by state.

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This disclosure is intended to summarize this annuity. Consult your Annuity Contract for specific terms and conditions of your annuity. Annuity Contracts are products of the insurance industry and are not guaranteed by any bank or insured by the FDIC.

**If you are replacing an existing Contract, carefully compare the benefits of the proposed Contract with your existing Contract to ensure your decision is in your best interest.**

I have read and received a copy of this document and understand I can request a copy of the NAIC Buyer's Guide. **I understand I am applying for an indexed annuity and that past Interest and Index activity is not intended to predict future activity.** I also acknowledge that a Full Surrender or Withdrawal over penalty-free amounts taken within the Surrender Charge Period or Bonus Vesting Period will result in Surrender Charges being assessed, a forfeiture of a percentage of my Bonus, and potential loss of Premium.

Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Amount of Premium Received

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Received From \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent's Name - Please Print \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Agent's Statement - I certify that I have provided a copy of this document to the applicant and I have made no promises or assurances regarding values of the Annuity Contract, nor have I made statements that differ from this disclosure.

Agent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Agent's State License Number \_\_\_\_\_

American Equity Investment  
Life Insurance Company<sup>®</sup>  
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West Des Moines, Iowa 50266  
life.american-equity.com  
888-221-1234



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# Foundation Gold

## American Equity Gold Standard for a Secure Retirement

American Equity is committed to your retirement years and your financial security. We design our products with your future in mind, and customized service to assist you in leading the life you have planned. All of our employee-owners are committed to ensuring your retirement-planning peace of mind.

Our commitment to quality service and strong Contract Owner benefits is unsurpassed in our industry. Our steadfast focus on our Contract Owners has led us to record growth in our industry, and we are the number three producer of fixed indexed annuities in the market.<sup>3</sup>

When you purchase an American Equity annuity, you are buying more than a product — you are buying a promise. We guarantee that we will be there for you when you need us. If you want an annuity that can offer you **safety of principal, flexibility, tax advantages, access when you need it** and a chance to have a **lifetime income** — we are the one who works for you.



Ron Grensteiner, President



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