This is a summary of the annual report of the Northwestern University Employee Welfare Benefit Plan (Employer Identification Number 36-2167817, Plan Number 575) for the plan year 01/01/2020 through 12/31/2020. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Northwestern University has committed itself to pay certain medical expense reimbursement and employee assistance program claims incurred under the terms of the plan.

Insurance Information

The plan has insurance contracts with Health Care Service Corporation, Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company, Dearborn Life Insurance Company, Hartford Life and Accident, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, Combined Insurance Company of America, Four Ever Life Insurance Company, and Symetra Life Insurance Company to pay certain health, prescription drug, dental, vision, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, long-term disability, and business travel accident claims incurred under the terms of the plan. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending 12/31/2020 were $21,261,491.

Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $34,324,768 as of the end of plan year, compared to $22,717,663 as of the beginning of the plan year. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of $11,607,105. This change includes unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of $142,250,528 including employer contributions of $98,606,648, employee contributions of $43,467,708, and earnings from investments of $176,172. Plan expenses were $130,643,423. These expenses included $6,637,413 in administrative expenses, and $124,006,010 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries and to insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. Financial information and information on payments to service providers.
2. Insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the plan administrator, Northwestern University, at 720 University Place, Evanston, IL 60208-1145 and phone number, 847-491-8588.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan: Northwestern University, 720 University Place, Evanston, IL 60208-1145, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Room N-1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average less than one minute per notice (approximately 3 hours and 11 minutes per plan). Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attention: Departmental Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-1301, Washington, DC 20210 or email DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0040.