

Statement of Additional Information
MAY 1, 2008
for
New York Life Select Variable Annuity
(formerly LifeStages® Select Variable Annuity)
From
NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY CORPORATION
(A Delaware Corporation)
51 Madison Avenue, Room 251
New York, New York 10010
Investing in
NYLIAC Variable Annuity Separate Account-III

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus. The SAI contains information that expands upon subjects discussed in the current New York Life Select Variable Annuity Prospectus. You should read the SAI in conjunction with the current New York Life Select Variable Annuity Prospectus dated May 1, 2008. You may obtain a copy of the Prospectus by calling New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation (“NYLIAC”) at (800) 598-2019 or writing to NYLIAC at Madison Square Station, P.O. Box 922, New York, New York 10159. Terms used but not defined in this SAI have the same meaning as in the current New York Life Select Variable Annuity Prospectus.

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THE POLICIES

The following provides additional information about the policies and supplements the description in the Prospectus.

Valuation of Accumulation Units

Accumulation Units are valued separately for each Investment Division of the Separate Account. The method used for valuing Accumulation Units in each Investment Division is the same. We arbitrarily set the value of each Accumulation Unit as of the date operations began for the Investment Division. Thereafter, the value of an Accumulation Unit of an Investment Division for any Business Day equals the value of an Accumulation Unit in that Investment Division as of the immediately preceding Business Day multiplied by the "Net Investment Factor" for that Investment Division for the current Business Day.

We determine the Net Investment Factor for each Investment Division for any period from the close of the preceding Business Day to the close of the current Business Day (the "Valuation Period") by the following formula:

$$(a/b) - c$$

Where: a = the result of:

(1) the net asset value per share of the Eligible Portfolio shares held in the Investment Division determined at the end of the current Valuation Period, plus

(2) the per share amount of any dividend or capital gain distribution made by the Eligible Portfolio for shares held in the Investment Division if the "ex-dividend" date occurs during the current Valuation Period;

b = the net asset value per share of the Eligible Portfolio shares held in the Investment Division determined as of the end of the immediately preceding Valuation Period; and

c = a factor representing the charges deducted from the applicable Investment Division on a daily basis. Such factor is equal to 1.85% (annualized) of the daily average Variable Accumulation Value. (See "CHARGES AND DEDUCTIONS—Other Charges" in the Prospectus.)

The Net Investment Factor may be greater or less than one. Therefore, the value of an Accumulation Unit in an Investment Division may increase or decrease from Valuation Period to Valuation Period.

ANNUITY PAYMENTS

We will make equal annuity payments each month under the Life Income Payment Option during the lifetime of the Annuitant. Once payments begin, they do not change and are guaranteed for 10 years even if the Annuitant dies sooner. If the Annuitant dies before all guaranteed payments have been made, the rest will be made to the Beneficiary. We may require that the payee submit proof of the Annuitant's survivorship as a condition for future payments beyond the 10-year guaranteed payment period.

On the Annuity Commencement Date, We will determine the Accumulation Value of your policy and use that value to calculate the amount of each annuity payment. We determine each annuity payment by applying the Accumulation Value, less any premium taxes, to the annuity factors specified in the annuity table set forth in the policy. Those factors are based on a set amount per \$1,000 of proceeds applied. The appropriate rate must be determined by the gender (except where, as in the case of certain Qualified Policies and other employer-sponsored retirement plans, such classification is not permitted), date of application and age of the Annuitant. The dollars applied are then divided by 1,000 and the result multiplied by the appropriate annuity factor from the table to compute the amount of the each monthly annuity payment.

GENERAL MATTERS

Non-Participating. The policies are non-participating. Dividends are not paid.

Misstatement of Age or Gender. If the Annuitant's stated age and/or gender in the policy are incorrect, NYLIAC will change the benefits payable to those which the premium payments would have purchased for the correct age and gender. Gender is not a factor when annuity benefits are based on unisex annuity payment rate tables. (See "Income Payments—Election of Income Payment Options" in the Prospectus.) If We made payments based on incorrect age or gender, We will increase or reduce a later payment or payments to adjust for the error.

Any adjustment will include interest, at 3.5% per year, from the date of the wrong payment to the date the adjustment is made.

Assignments. If permitted by the plan or by law for the plan indicated in the application for the policy, you may assign your interest in a Non-Qualified Policy or any interest in it prior to the Annuity Commencement Date and during the Annuitant's or Owner's lifetime. In order to effect an assignment of all or any part of your interest in a Non-Qualified Policy prior to the Annuity Commencement Date and during the Annuitant's or Owner's lifetime, you must send a duly executed instrument of assignment to VPSC at one of the addresses listed in Question 15 of the Prospectus. NYLIAC will not be deemed to know of an assignment unless it receives a copy of a duly executed instrument evidencing such assignment. Further, NYLIAC assumes no responsibility for the validity of any assignment. (See "Federal Tax Matters—Taxation of Annuities in General" in the Prospectus.)

Modification. NYLIAC may not modify the policy without your consent except to make the policy meet the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, or to make the policy comply with any changes in the Internal Revenue Code or as required by the Code in order to continue treatment of the policy as an annuity, or by any other applicable law.

Incontestability. We rely on statements made in the application or a Policy Request. They are representations, not warranties. We will not contest the policy after it has been in force during the lifetime of the Annuitant for two years from the Policy Date.

FEDERAL TAX MATTERS

Taxation of New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation

NYLIAC is taxed as a life insurance company. Because the Separate Account is not an entity separate from NYLIAC, and its operations form a part of NYLIAC, it will not be taxed separately as a "regulated investment company" under Subchapter M of the Code. As a result, NYLIAC takes into account applicable tax attributes of the assets of the Separate Account on its corporate income tax return, including corporate dividends received deductions and foreign tax credits that may be produced by assets of the Separate Account. Investment income and realized net capital gains on the assets of the Separate Account are reinvested and are taken into account in determining the Accumulation Value. As a result, such investment income and realized net capital gains are automatically retained as part of the reserves under the policy. Under existing federal income tax law, NYLIAC believes that Separate Account investment income and realized net capital gains should not be taxed to the extent that such income and gains are retained as part of the tax-deductible reserves under the policy.

Tax Status of the Policies

Section 817(h) of the Code requires that the investments of the Separate Account must be "adequately diversified" in accordance with Treasury regulations in order for the policies to qualify as annuity contracts under Section 72 of the Code. The Separate Account intends to comply with the diversification requirements prescribed by the Treasury under Treasury Regulation Section 1.817-5.

To comply with regulations under Section 817(h) of the Code, the Separate Account is required to diversify its investments, so that on the last day of each quarter of a calendar year, no more than 55% of the value of its assets is represented by any one investment, no more than 70% is represented by any two investments, no more than 80% is represented by any three investments, and no more than 90% is represented by any four investments. For this purpose, securities of a single issuer are treated as one investment and each U.S. Government agency or instrumentality is treated as a separate issuer. Any security issued, guaranteed, or insured (to the extent so guaranteed or insured) by the U.S. Government or an agency or instrumentality of the U.S. Government is treated as a security issued by the U.S. Government or its agency or instrumentality, whichever is applicable.

Although the Treasury Department has issued regulations on the diversification requirements, such regulations do not provide guidance concerning the extent to which policyowners may direct their investments to particular subaccounts of a separate account, or the permitted number of such subaccounts. It is unclear whether additional guidance in this regard will be issued in the future. It is possible that if such guidance is issued, the policy may need to be modified to comply with such additional guidance. For these reasons, NYLIAC reserves the right to modify the policy as necessary to attempt to prevent the policyowner from being considered the owner of the assets of the Separate Account or otherwise to qualify the policy for favorable tax treatment.

The Code also requires that non-qualified annuity contracts contain specific provisions for distribution of the policy proceeds upon the death of any policyowner. In order to be treated as an annuity contract for federal income tax purposes, the Code requires that such policies provide that (a) if any policyowner dies on or after the Annuity Commencement Date and before the entire interest in the policy has been distributed, the remaining portion must be distributed at least as rapidly as under the method in effect on the policyowner's death; and (b) if any policyowner dies before the Annuity Commencement Date, the entire interest in the policy must generally be distributed within 5 years after the policyowner's date of death. These requirements will be considered satisfied if the entire interest of the policy is used to purchase an immediate annuity under which payments will begin within one year of the policyowner's death and will be made for the life of the Beneficiary or for a period not extending beyond the life expectancy of the Beneficiary. If the Beneficiary is the policyowner's surviving spouse, the Policy may be continued with the surviving spouse as the new policyowner. If the policyowner is not a natural person, these "death of Owner" rules apply when the primary Annuitant is changed. Non-Qualified Policies contain provisions intended to comply with these requirements of the Code. No regulations interpreting these requirements of the Code have yet been issued and thus no assurance can be given that the provisions contained in these policies satisfy all such Code requirements. The provisions contained in these policies will be reviewed and modified if necessary to assure that they comply with the Code requirements when clarified by regulation or otherwise.

Withholding of federal income taxes on the taxable portion of all distributions may be required unless the recipient elects not to have any such amounts withheld and properly notifies NYLIAC of that election. Different rules may apply to United States citizens or expatriates living abroad. In addition, some states have enacted legislation requiring withholding.

Even if a recipient elects no withholding, special rules may require NYLIAC to disregard the recipient's election if the recipient fails to supply NYLIAC with a "TIN" or taxpayer identification number (social security number for individuals) or if the Internal Revenue Service notifies NYLIAC that the TIN provided by the recipient is incorrect.

SAFEKEEPING OF SEPARATE ACCOUNT ASSETS

NYLIAC holds title to assets of the Separate Account. The assets are kept physically segregated and held separate and apart from NYLIAC's general corporate assets. Records are maintained of all purchases and redemptions of Eligible Portfolio shares held by each of the Investment Divisions.

STATE REGULATION

NYLIAC is a stock life insurance company organized under the laws of Delaware, and is subject to regulation by the Delaware State Insurance Department. We file an annual statement with the Delaware Commissioner of Insurance on or before March 1 of each year covering the operations and reporting on the financial condition of NYLIAC as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year. Periodically, the Delaware Commissioner of Insurance examines the financial condition of NYLIAC, including the liabilities and reserves of the Separate Account.

In addition, NYLIAC is subject to the insurance laws and regulations of all the states where it is licensed to operate. The availability of certain policy rights and provisions depends on state approval and/or filing and review processes. Where required by state law or regulation, the policies will be modified accordingly.

RECORDS AND REPORTS

NYLIAC maintains all records and accounts relating to the Separate Account. As presently required by the federal securities laws, NYLIAC will mail to you at your last known address of record, at least semi-annually after the first Policy Year, reports containing information required under the federal securities laws or by any other applicable law or regulation. It is important that your confirmation and quarterly statements be reviewed immediately to ensure that there are no errors. In order to correct an error, you must call it to Our attention within 15 days of the date of the statement. It is important that you inform NYLIAC of an address change so that you can receive these policy statements (please refer to the section on "How do I contact NYLIAC by Telephone or by the Internet?"). In the event your statement is returned from the US Postal Service as undeliverable, We reserve the right to suspend mailing future correspondence and also suspend current transaction processing until an accurate address is obtained. Additionally, no new service requests can be processed until a valid current address is provided.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

NYLIAC is a defendant in lawsuits arising from its agency sales force, insurance (including variable contracts registered under the federal securities law), and/or other operations. Most of these actions seek substantial or unspecified compensatory and punitive damages. NYLIAC is also from time to time involved in various governmental, administrative, and investigative proceedings and inquiries.

Notwithstanding the uncertain nature of litigation and regulatory inquiries, the outcome of which cannot be predicted, NYLIAC believes that, after provisions made in the financial statements, the ultimate liability that could result from litigation and proceedings would not have a material adverse effect on NYLIAC's financial position; however, it is possible that settlements or adverse determinations in one or more actions or other proceedings in the future could have a material adverse effect on NYLIAC's operating results for a given year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated balance sheet of NYLIAC as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated statements of income, of stockholder's equity and of cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007 included in this SAI have been so included in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting. The Separate Account statement of assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2007, and the statements of operations, of changes in net assets and the financial highlights for each of the periods indicated in the financial statements have been so included in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

OTHER INFORMATION

NYLIAC filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, under the Securities Act of 1933 as amended, with respect to the policies discussed in the Prospectus and this Statement of Additional Information. We have not included all of the information set forth in the registration statement, amendments and exhibits to the registration statement in the Prospectus and this Statement of Additional Information. We intend the statements contained in the Prospectus and this Statement of Additional Information concerning the content of the policies and other legal instruments to be summaries. For a complete statement of the terms of these documents, you should refer to the instruments filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The omitted information may be obtained at the principal offices of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C., upon payment of prescribed fees, or through the Commission's website at www.sec.gov.