|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pricing Supplement Dated | 08/12/05 |

(To Prospectus dated March 5, 2004 and

Prospectus Supplement dated March 5, 2004)

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)

Registration Statement Nos. 333-110499 and

333-110499-01

CUSIP: 74254PHG0



**Principal Life Insurance Company**

**Principal® Life CoreNotes® (Callable)**

**Issued Through**

**Principal Life Income Fundings Trust 2005-81 (the “Trust”)**

The description of this pricing supplement of the particular terms of the Principal® Life CoreNotes® offered hereby, and the Funding Agreement (specified below) sold by Principal Life Insurance Company to the Trust (specified herein), the payment obligations of which are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Guarantee (specified below) issued by Principal Financial Group, Inc. to the Trust, supplements the description of the general terms and provisions of the notes, the funding agreements and the guarantees set forth in the accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement, to which reference is hereby made.

**1. The Notes**



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Principal Amount: | $1,258,000.0 | Purchasing Agent Discount: | 2.000% |
| Issue Price: | 100.0% | Original Issue Date: | 08/17/05 |
| Net Proceeds to the Trust: | $1,232,840.0 | Stated Maturity Date: | 08/17/20 |
|  |  |  |
| Interest Payment Dates: | The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 02/15/2006. |  |
| Initial Interest Payment Date: | 02/15/06 |  |  |  |
| Regular Record Date: | The 1st day of every sixth month commencing on 02/01/2006. |  |
| Type of Interest Rate: | x Fixed Rate | o Floating Rate |  |  |
| Fixed Rate Notes: | x Yes | o No. | If, Yes, |  |
| Interest Rate: | 5.40% |  |  |  |
| Floating Rate Notes: | o Yes | x No. | If, Yes, |  |
| Regular Floating Rate Notes: | o Yes | o No. | If, Yes, |  |
| Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Rate Basis(es): |  |  |  |  |
| Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note: | o Yes | o No. | If, Yes, |  |
| Floating Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Rate Basis(es): |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Rate Commencement Date: |  |  |  |  |
| Initial Interest Rate, if any: | N/A |  |  |  |
| Initial Interest Reset Date: | N/A |  |  |  |



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*“CoreNotes®” is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co.*

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|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Interest Rate Basis(es). Check all that apply: |  | N/A |
|  | o CD Rate | o CMT Rate |
|  | o Commercial Paper Rate | o LIBOR |
|  | o Treasury Rate | o Prime Rate |
|  | o Other (See Attached) |  |
| If LIBOR: | o LIBOR Reuters Page | o LIBOR Moneyline Telerate Page |
|  | LIBOR Currency: |  |
| If CMT Rate: |  |  |
| Designated CMT Telerate Page: |  |  |
| If 7052: | o Weekly Average | o Monthly Average |
| Designated CMT Maturity Index: |  |  |
| Index Maturity: | N/A |  |
| Spread (+/-): | N/A |  |
| Spread Multiplier: | N/A |  |
| Interest Reset Date(s): | N/A |  |
| Interest Rate Determination Date(s): | N/A |  |
| Maximum Interest Rate, if any: | N/A |  |
| Minimum Interest Rate, if any: | N/A |  |
| Calculation Agent: | Citibank, N.A. |  |
| Computation of Interest: | N/A |  |

(not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement)

Day Count Convention: N/A

(not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement)

Discount Note:

Total Amount of Discount:

Initial Accrual Period of Discount:

Additional/Other Terms:

Terms of Survivor’s Option:

Annual Put Limitation:

Individual Put Limitation:

Trust Put Limitation:

Redemption Provisions:

Initial Redemption Date:

Redemption:

Additional Other Terms:

Repayment:

Repayment Date(s):

Repayment Price:

Repayment:

Additional/Other Terms:

Sinking Fund (not applicable unless specified):

Securities Exchange Listing:

Authorized Denominations:

o Yes x No. If, Yes,

x $2,000,000 or 2%; or

o $ or %



x $250,000; or

o $



x 2%; or $



x Yes o No. If, Yes, 08/15/08

x In whole only and not in part

o May be in whole or in part

Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date

o Yes x No. If, Yes,

o In whole only and not in part

o May be in whole or in part

o Yes x No. If, Yes, Name of Exchange:

$1,000

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Ratings:

The Notes issued under the Program are rated AA by Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”).

Principal Life expects the Notes to be rated Aa2 by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Purchasing Agent(s) Purchasing Notes as Principal: | ☒ Yes | o No. |  |  | If, Yes, |  |
|  | **Purchasing Agent(s)** |  |  |  |  | **Principal Amount** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Merrill Lynch |  |  | $1,258,000.0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total: |  |  | $1,258,000.0 |  |  |  |
| State of Organization of the Trust: | New York |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Additional/Other Terms: | None |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Special Tax Considerations: | None |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2. The Funding Agreement** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Funding Agreement Issuer: | Principal Life Insurance Company |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Funding Agreement No.: | 5-17814 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposit: | $1,258,015.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Deposit: | $1,232,840.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Effective Date: | 08/17/05 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stated Maturity Date: | 08/17/15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Payment Dates: | The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 02/15/2006. |  |
| Initial Interest Payment Date: | 02/15/06 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Type of Interest Rate: | x Fixed Rate | o Floating Rate |  |
| Fixed Rate Funding Agreement: | x Yes | o No. |  |  | If, Yes, |  |
| Interest Rate: | 5.40% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Floating Rate Funding Agreement: | o Yes | x No. |  |  | If, Yes, |  |
| Regular Floating Rate Funding Agreement: | o Yes | o No. |  |  | If, Yes, |  |
| Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Rate Basis(es): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Funding Agreement: | o Yes | o No. |  |  | If, Yes, |  |
| Floating Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Rate Basis(es): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Interest Rate: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Rate Commencement Date: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Initial Interest Rate, if any: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Initial Interest Reset Date: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Rate Basis(es). Check all that apply: | o CD Rate | N/A | o CMT Rate |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | o Commercial Paper Rate |  | o LIBOR |  |
|  |  | o Treasury Rate |  | o Prime Rate |  |
|  |  | o Other (See Attached) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| If LIBOR: | o LIBOR Reuters Page |  | o LIBOR Moneyline Telerate Page |  |
|  |  | LIBOR Currency: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| If CMT Rate: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated CMT Telerate Page: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| If 7052: | o Weekly Average |  | o Monthly Average |  |

Designated CMT Maturity Index:

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|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Index Maturity: | N/A |  |  |
| Spread (+/-): | N/A |  |  |
| Spread Multiplier: | N/A |  |  |
| Interest Reset Date(s): | N/A |  |  |
| Interest Rate Determination Date(s): | N/A |  |  |
| Maximum Interest Rate, if any: | N/A |  |  |
| Minimum Interest Rate, if any: | N/A |  |  |
| Computation of Interest: | N/A |  |  |
| (not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement) |  |
| Day Count Convention: | N/A |  |  |
| (not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement) |  |
| Discount Funding Agreement: | o Yes | x No. | If, Yes, |
| Total Amount of Discount: |  |  |  |
| Initial Accrual Period of Discount: |  |  |  |
| Additional/Other Terms: |  |  |  |

Terms of Survivor’s Option:

Annual Put Limitation:

Individual Put Limitation:

Trust Put Limitation:

Redemption:

Initial Redemption Date:

Redemption:

Additional Other Terms:

Repayment:

Repayment Date(s):

Repayment Price:

Repayment:

Additional/Other Terms:

Sinking Fund (not applicable unless specified):

Ratings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | x $2,000,000 or 2%; or |
|  | o $ | or % |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | x $250,000; or |  |  |  |  |
|  | o $ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | x 2%; or $ |  |  |  |  |  |
| x Yes | o No. |  |  |  | If, Yes, |
| 08/15/08 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

x In whole only and not in part

o May be in whole or in part

Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date

o Yes x No. If, Yes,

o In whole only and not in part

o May be in whole or in part

N/A

The Funding Agreement issued under the Program is rated AA by S&P.

Principal Life expects the Funding Agreement to be rated Aa2 by Moody’s.

Additional Other Terms: None

Special Tax Considerations: None

**3. The Guarantee**

Guarantee Issuer: Principal Financial Group, Inc.

Effective Date: 08/17/05

Additional/Other Terms: None

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