

What you need to know about...

Group Disability Insurance

What would you say is your biggest financial asset?

You might think it's your home, car or maybe your investment portfolio. In reality, it's likely your ability to work and earn an income

So, what would happen if you were unable to work due to an illness or injury? How long would you get by before financial difficulties set in?

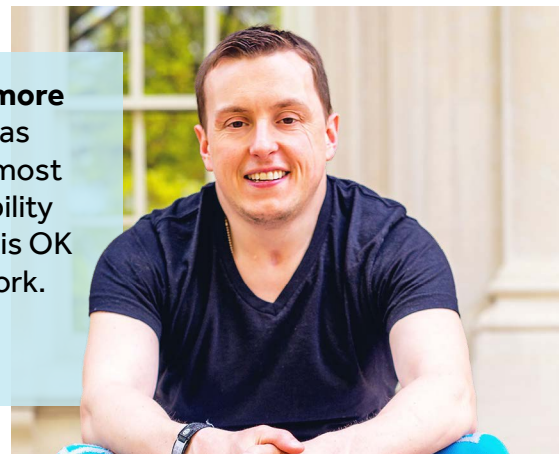
That's where disability insurance comes in. It provides you with a portion of your income if an illness or injury prevents you from working and earning a living.

Remember, everyday expenses like mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, credit card bills and more don't stop even if you can't work. And medical bills from an illness or injury can often make a bad situation even worse. Disability insurance can help cover this and more.

Long road back: Michael Sizemore

At just 27, Michael Sizemore was struck by a drunk driver and almost died from his injuries. His disability insurance has ensured that he is OK financially, as he is unable to work. Discover his story:

lifehappens.org/sizemore60



How much disability insurance do I need?

In general, you'd need enough disability insurance to cover your monthly expenses, unless you plan to tap into your savings, in the event you couldn't work. But there are other factors you'll want to consider, such as a partner's financial contribution.

What are the types of disability insurance?

There are two main types of disability insurance that pay a portion of your income if you become disabled. **Short-term disability insurance** covers lost income up to two years, while **long-term disability insurance** can cover lost income to retirement age. Often, people opt to have both types of coverage.

How much does disability insurance cost?

It depends on several factors including your benefit amount, waiting period, benefit period, occupation, health status, age and terms of the policy. Check with your professional or affinity group for exclusive rates based on group purchasing power. Many times the cost of coverage may be less than you think.

Why should I get disability insurance through my professional association?

Professional Associations and Affinity Groups offer several advantages including:

- ☒ Keep your insurance as you change jobs or companies
- ☒ Exclusive pricing based on your association or group
- ☒ Benefits are typically federal income tax-free
- ☒ Custom features and provisions based on your occupation or group

Disability insurance saves a family—twice: Valerie King

Valerie King says she was “born to be a doctor,” but a chronic illness ended her career. Her disability insurance policy helped this single mom raise her three daughters without financial worries.

Discover her story:

lifehappens.org/king30



Apply with Confidence

Coverage is Underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company.

An industry leader for over 175 years, New York Life has received the highest ratings for financial strength currently awarded to any U.S. life insurer by the four major rating agencies.

A++
Superior
A.M. Best

AAA
Exceptionally Strong
Fitch

Aaa
Exceptional
Moody's

AA+
Very Strong
Standard & Poor's

Third Party Ratings as of 10/18/2022.

Debunking disability insurance myths with facts

Don't let these myths stop you from getting group disability insurance. Consider the facts. We can help you navigate these and other myths surrounding disability insurance.

Myths



I don't need disability insurance because I have it through work.



I'm young and healthy. I don't need disability insurance.



I don't need it because I don't work in a dangerous profession.



It's too expensive.

Facts



When you leave your job you will lose your coverage. Group disability insurance is portable, you can keep your coverage throughout your career.



1 in 4 workers entering the workforce today will suffer a disability before they retire. Disability can happen to any one at any time.¹



90% of disabilities are caused by illness rather than accidents.²



78% of people would experience financial difficulty if their paychecks were delayed for a week.³



Reality Check

Disability can happen to any one at any time. Help protect your financial security with group disability insurance. Exclusive group rates are available to you with options to help you protect a key asset – your ability to earn a paycheck.



Contact Us:

[Company name]

¹ Fact Sheet: Social Security, Social Security Administration, February 8, 2023.

² "Hey Gen X: Time to Protect Your Income," Council for Disability Awareness, July 2022.

³ PR Newswire. "Survey Reveals Six Percent Increase in Americans Living Paycheck to Paycheck in Just One Year," September 13, 2023.

Key terms

When considering your disability insurance needs, you should be familiar with the following:

Definition of Disability

An illness or injury that prevents you from carrying out the duties of your job and earn an income.

Own Occupation

A unique feature which can allow you to receive benefits if you're unable to perform the duties of your own occupation—even if you have the ability to work in another field.

Extent of Disability

Some policies pay only if you are totally disabled. Others pay residual disability benefits if eventually you can return to work to some extent and experience a loss in pay.

Premium

The price you will pay for your disability insurance coverage. You usually select the payment frequency option (monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually) to pay your premium.

Underwriting

The process used to determine if you are approved for coverage and at what cost. This can include health and financial assessments.

30 Day Free Look Period

Apply with no pressure. Once approved for coverage, you have 30 days to review your Certificate of Insurance at no cost or obligation.

Waiting Period

The length of time from when you are first disabled, as documented by a medical professional, until first benefit can be paid. Often you may select your Waiting Period. Options include: 30 days, 60 days, 6 months or 1 year. Opting for a longer Waiting Period reduces the cost of insurance.

Waiver of Premium^{*}

The cost of insurance may be waived after a specified period of time if you become disabled.

Cost of Living Adjustment Rider[±]

You can typically add this rider to your coverage that increases benefits by a specified percentage after each year of disability. This option can be vital to maintaining your standard of living if you're out of work for an extended period of time.

Future Purchase Option Rider[±]

Increase your monthly benefit amount as you age at specified periods of time and your income increases with no medical exams. This can allow you to add more insurance coverage without a new application or health review at set ages to help adjust for changes in income over your career.

^{*} Waiver of Premium is included in some policies.

[±] May be available at an additional cost.



NEW YORK LIFE and the NEW YORK LIFE Box logo are trademarks of New York Life Insurance Company. New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010. © 2021, New York Life Insurance Company. All rights reserved.



This piece has been reproduced with the permission of Life Happens, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping consumers make smart insurance decisions to safeguard their families' financial futures. Life Happens does not endorse any insurance company, product or advisor. © Life Happens 2021. All rights reserved.