

Financial Ratings Series

**WeissRatings**  
& Grey House Publishing

Financial Literacy: Planning for the Future  
**Insurance Strategies & Estate  
Planning to Protect Your Family**

2024/25



GREY HOUSE PUBLISHING



Financial Literacy:  
Planning for the Future  
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# Welcome!

Grey House Publishing and Weiss Ratings are proud to announce the fifth edition of *Financial Literacy: Planning for the Future*. Each volume in this series provides readers with easy-to-understand guidance on how to manage their finances. This eight-volume set assists readers who are ready for one—or more—of many important next steps in their financial planning—starting a family, buying a home, weighing insurance options, protecting themselves from identify theft, planning for college and so much more. *Financial Literacy: Planning for the Future* takes readers further towards their financial goals.

Written in easy-to-understand language, these guides take the guesswork out of financial planning. Each guide is devoted to a specific topic relevant to making big decisions with significant financial impact. Combined, these eight guides provide readers with helpful information on how to best manage their money and plan for their future and their family's future. Readers will find helpful guidance on:

- Financial Planning for **Living Together, Getting Married & Starting a Family**
- **Buying a Home**
- **Insurance Strategies & Estate Planning** to Protect Your Family
- Making the Right **Healthcare Coverage** Choices
- Protect Yourself from **Identify Theft & Other Scams**
- **Starting a Career & Career Advancement**
- **Saving for Your Child's Education**
- **Retirement Planning Strategies** & the Importance of Starting Early

Filled with valuable information alongside helpful worksheets and planners, these volumes are designed to point you in the right direction toward a solid financial future, and give you helpful guidance along the way.



# Planning for the Future: Insurance Strategies & Estate Planning to Protect Your Family

## Part 1: Life Insurance & Disability Insurance

Life is full of unexpected turns. While we may not be able to avoid these unhappy experiences, we can at least purchase some assurance that our family's finances won't be devastated by certain unexpected events. This assurance is called *insurance*, and it's an important feature of most everyone's lives in the modern world.

Today, there are certain forms of insurance that are mandatory for all or most citizens. Car insurance is required for all drivers. Your mortgage institution, following federal mandates, may require you to purchase homeowners' insurance.

There are many other kinds of insurance or types of policies you should consider. A lot depends on your circumstances. Many financial planners, however, recommend life and disability insurance, especially if you are married or have children.



**Insurance  
Needs: Life,  
Disability,  
Health, Auto**

### **Life Insurance**

The point of life insurance is to provide for those you leave behind at the time of your death. This is especially important if you've started a family and have dependents. Some experts recommend that your policy should pay out ten times your annual salary. However, after funeral expenses, the amount of the benefit is up to you.

### **Disability Insurance**

You may not think disability insurance is important. But, according to the Social Security Administration, one in four of us will become disabled for a period of at least ninety days – and thus unable to work – at some point before we reach the age of retirement. Further, most disabling accidents are *not* work-related, which



means that workers' compensation programs will not assist you. Having disability insurance in addition to your savings will make a huge difference if you face a devastating injury or illness.

Life insurance and disability insurance will be the focus of this section.

## Health Insurance

Nearly 67% of bankruptcies in the United States begin with healthcare costs that spiral out of control. Research estimates that 530,000 American families turn to bankruptcy each year because of medical issues and bills<sup>1</sup>. It is difficult to find affordable health insurance; this is especially true outside of employer-sponsored health insurance programs.

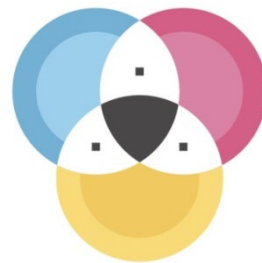
More information on health insurance can be found in another guide in this series, *Making the Right Healthcare Coverage Choices*.

## Auto Insurance

According to estimates from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, an organization that works with the federal government on auto safety issues, 42,795 people died in motor vehicle accidents in 2022<sup>2</sup> and over 5 million people were seriously injured. Every state in the

union requires drivers to carry at least liability insurance.

More information about auto insurance can be found in our other series, *Financial Literacy Basics: Buying a Car & Understanding Auto Insurance*.



## Life Insurance

Life insurance is intended to provide protection against financial losses

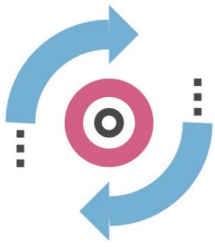
resulting from the death of the insured person. The amount of money to be paid is called the **benefit**, and the person to whom it is paid is called the **beneficiary**.

Who needs life insurance? Most of the time, buying life insurance only becomes important when you're starting a family. Once you have children, you will want them to be provided for in case you should die prematurely. But life insurance makes sense in other circumstances, too. If you are a newlywed, then you will want your spouse to be taken care of if you die unexpectedly. You might have a mortgage payment and a financial plan that depends on the salaries of two adult earners, and your surviving spouse could be left in financial difficulty without you.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/11/this-is-the-real-reason-most-americans-file-for-bankruptcy.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/traffic-crash-death-estimates-2022>





## How Life Insurance Works

The purpose of life insurance is to provide some financial security

for your family or other beneficiaries after you die – especially in the case of a sudden or early death.

For this reason, the decision to purchase life insurance, as well as your selection of a beneficiary and the type and amount of insurance policy, should only be made after careful consideration of your financial plan.

Do you want to leave enough to support your dependent children until they reach the age of maturity as well as pay off the mortgage so that your survivors will not be forced to move? Do you only want to leave enough to pay for one of those things?

If you have a life insurance policy, it is wise to look at your policy at least once a year, to make sure that your policy is right for your current

### REVIEW YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS EVERY YEAR

As your family situation – and your financial situation – changes over time, you should periodically re-evaluate the safety net that is in place for your family and heirs.

situation. Things like marriage, divorce, the birth of a child, or the purchase of a business are all events that might require a re-thinking of your life insurance strategy.

This guide will discuss the two major types of life insurance policies: **term life insurance** and **permanent life insurance**, sometimes also called **whole life**.

In both cases, the two most important monetary elements of the life insurance policy are the **death benefit** and the **premium**. In addition, a permanent life insurance policy will have a **cash value**.

The **death benefit** is the amount of money that the insurance company will pay out to the beneficiaries named on the policy after you die. There is no set amount; it will depend on your circumstances and your choice, but the insurance company will use its actuarial statistics and other information – like your age, your health, and your lifestyle, among other things – to determine their risk, meaning how likely is it that you will die before the policy expires.

The risk to the insurance company will largely determine the amount of the **premium**, or what you have to pay for the insurance. For term insurance, the premium pays just for the cost of the insurance. For permanent policies, on the other hand, your premium may



also include payments toward the cash value.

From the perspective of the insured, the **cash value** resembles a kind of tax-deferred savings account; a portion of your premium will be used to accumulate the cash value of the policy. It has two functions. First, the cash value can be drawn on while the insured is still alive. Second, the cash value works for the insurance company to mitigate their risk. This is because the larger the cash value that has accumulated, the lower their risk of having to pay the full death benefit.



## How Much Life Insurance Should You Have?

Carrying life insurance doesn't always make sense. If you are single with no dependents, then life insurance may not be very important to you, especially if you have enough assets to pay for costs related to your death, like funeral expenses. If you have dependents, and you also have plenty of investments that can provide for them in case of your death, then life insurance may not be necessary.

On the other hand, if you have dependents but you don't have a significant portfolio of wealth, then life insurance might be a great way to

make sure that your dependents will be financially stable in the event of your death. The insurance benefit could be used to pay off the mortgage, for example, and support your children until they are adults.

Before buying insurance, you should sit down and determine your insurance plan. Ask yourself: How much money will your dependents need? As you formulate your plan, consider these factors:

- **Debt payment.** You should purchase enough life insurance to pay off the debts that will be inherited by your spouse and will affect your children's lives. This includes, above all, your mortgage, car loans, and all debts that you share with your spouse. (Your own personal debt, like your student loans, is not inherited.)
- **Support for dependents.** Suppose you are the primary provider for your family, and your salary brings in \$75,000 annually. You should consider buying a policy that will replace this income for a given number of years. Add some extra to account for inflation.

For example, if you want to leave enough to provide for your family's needs for ten years, then you would want a policy for \$750,000 plus



something more for inflation. It's common to simply add one more year of your salary to handle this. In this case that would be  
 $\$750,000 + \$75,000 = \$825,000$ .

Most insurance experts recommend that people purchase a life insurance policy that covers six to ten years' worth of their annual salary.

But there are other ways to think about the amount you need. Suppose, for example, that you are a 45-year-old man with a wife who stays at home to care for a disabled adult child. You might want, in this case, to buy enough life insurance to replace your annual income until your age of retirement, allowing your retirement plan to take care of the rest. In this case, you would purchase a policy for twenty times your salary.



## Types of Life Insurance Policies: Term versus Permanent

According to the American Council on Life Insurers, nearly 9.5 million life insurance policies were purchased in 2022. Of those, 3.7 million were term life insurance policies (39.3%) and 5.7

million were whole life (permanent) and endowment policies (60.7%).<sup>3</sup>

### Term Life Insurance

“Term” means that the policy has an end; it provides coverage for a limited period of time. The cost of term life insurance is typically much cheaper than a permanent life insurance policy. Term life insurance will not have a cash value, unlike permanent policies.

Term life insurance is generally a good fit for people in their twenties and thirties who have children. The temporary nature of the policy makes it a flexible tool for protecting your family against financial devastation if you die unexpectedly before your children are grown.

### How Does It Work?

Suppose you are 32 years old, and you purchase a term life insurance policy for \$500,000. A term life insurance contract is for a limited number of years. Let's suppose that, in this case, the policy is for ten years. You might pay a monthly premium of around \$50. If you die at any time during that period, whether the day after you sign or the day before the policy expires, the insurance company will pay \$500,000 to the beneficiary or beneficiaries named in the policy. If

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.acli.com/Industry-Facts/Life-Insurers-Fact-Book>



you die the day after the policy expires, then your beneficiaries will receive nothing.

You will typically be able to renew your term life insurance policy before it expires. But this is often the same as signing for a new policy in practice. It will likely mean qualifying for insurance again at your current age, and your premium will likely be higher.

Term life insurance makes sense for the majority of people seeking life insurance for one simple reason: it costs much less than permanent life insurance. Typically, in fact, it makes more sense to buy term life insurance and then keep renewing the policy – up to a point – than it does to buy permanent life insurance. And, especially if you invest the difference in the cost between a term and a permanent policy for many years, you will have a tidy sum.

Your premium will be decided on the basis of some things over which you have no control, like your age and your gender, as well as on factors that are in your control, at least to some extent.

You will be required to have a medical exam and answer questions about your lifestyle. The premiums for a smoker can be 2 to 3 times higher than that of a nonsmoker.

If you smoke, you should quit smoking as soon as possible. Typically, insurance companies will not insure you at nonsmoker rates until you've been a nonsmoker for at least twelve months.

Your occupation and even your driving record will all be used to determine your risk of dying during the period in which the policy is in force.



## Three Types of Term Life Insurance

- **Level Term.** This is the most common type of term life insurance, by far. Level term means that your premium will be the same from the start to the end of the policy. Your rate will be determined by averaging the annual costs based upon your risk as you age across the period of the policy. The death benefit also remains the same for the entire term of the policy.
- **Decreasing Term.** In a decreasing term policy, the death benefit is reduced each year as the policy ages. This kind of insurance is designed





with asset protection in mind. It makes sense if you want a policy that will cover the remaining payments on the mortgage for your house, for example. A decreasing term policy costs less than a regular policy, and the monthly payments are typically level for the term of the policy.

- **Yearly Renewable Term (YRT).** This kind of policy is renewable annually but doesn't require that you undergo a medical examination or other determinations of your insurability each year; the rates are based upon actuarial tables without the additional, personal input. The policy premiums on a yearly renewable term policy can become very expensive as you get older.



## Permanent Life Insurance

Permanent life insurance differs from term insurance in that it doesn't expire, and it includes a **cash value**.

There are two kinds of permanent life insurance, **whole** and **adjustable**; the most common kind of adjustable insurance is **universal**.

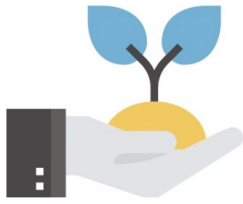
The cash value portion of the policy is a sort of savings account. Usually after a certain period of time, you will be able to borrow funds against or even withdraw the cash value.

Does it make sense to buy permanent life insurance? It depends on your circumstances. Permanent life insurance premiums are typically much higher than term life premiums. This is because, unlike term life, which is likely to expire before you die, permanent insurance will, in fact, pay out a guaranteed benefit when you die.

The insurer's risk is calculated on the basis of *when* you will die, not *if* you will die before the policy expires. Further, many financial advisers warn that the cash value component of a life insurance policy may not be the most robust savings plan or investment strategy available to you, so be careful when shopping for policies.

On the other hand, if you have a lot of wealth, then a permanent life insurance policy might make more sense for a number of reasons, including managing your tax liability.





## Whole Life

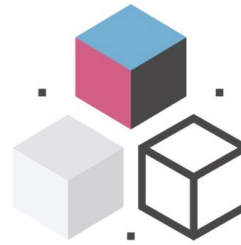
This is the standard form of permanent life insurance, also called **straight life**. It

will include an investment portion in which you can grow equity in a savings account with tax-deferred interest dividends.

### History of Whole Life

From the 1940s through the 1970s, whole life insurance was the preferred type of policy. Because it included an investment component, whole life formed a comprehensive product that individuals could purchase as part of their larger retirement and financial planning strategy.

Beginning in the 1980s, however, a greater diversity of investment and insurance products became available, including more flexible products that allow consumers to invest in the stock market and achieve higher rates of return than were typically available from whole life policies.



## Adjustable Life Insurance

The most common kind of **adjustable life insurance** is

called **universal**. This is a form of permanent insurance that is more flexible than standard whole life.

It is called universal because it combines certain features of term life with permanent insurance. In a universal policy, the various components – things like the death benefit, the savings component, and the premium – can typically be altered.

The chief idea behind a universal policy is to allow interest earned in the savings component of the policy to pay the premium. Also, any payments that you make beyond the minimum payment will go to the cash value savings, and these additional funds, too, can be applied against the premiums.

This means that your monthly premium for a given type of coverage will be smaller than it would be if you had an ordinary whole life policy, although it only works up to a point. As you age, the rising cost of your insurance policy will make the dividend from your savings seem less and less significant. Another helpful feature of a universal plan is that if the savings component isn't returning a



high dividend, you can simply use it as if it were cash on hand to pay the premium while you grow money elsewhere.



## Term Life Insurance versus Permanent

The choice between term or permanent life insurance is partly a matter of your circumstances and needs and partly a matter of your mindset. If what you want is a life insurance policy that can be used by your spouse and children to pay off whatever remains on your mortgage and other debts if you die before they are paid off, then you really only need a term policy. In fact, a **decreasing term life insurance policy** would be an appropriate financial instrument for you.

If you conceive of life insurance as first, a tool to provide for your heirs in the case of an early death, and *also* a source of income for your beneficiaries whenever you die, and if you feel that the tax-advantaged savings component is worthwhile, then you may opt for a whole or universal life policy.

If you buy a term life insurance policy, then one of the things you will probably have to face is the following situation. (*Probably* is used advisedly

because of the risk calculation behind term policies.) Suppose you bought a term life insurance policy twenty years ago, and you made twenty years' worth of payments into it. Now its term is up. *You have nothing to show for it.* Was it worth it? Should you have bought a whole life policy instead?

Consider, however, that the term life insurance policy may have cost you around \$50 per month. If you *had* purchased a whole life policy instead of term life twenty years before, your monthly payment might have been more like \$1,000 or \$2,000 each month. And you might have had a smaller benefit.

Having a higher payment might make sense to you if you conceive of your life insurance as, say, one more instrument for your funds, or as a way to manage a tax liability.

But most people are better off not thinking of their insurance benefit as an investment-like savings. You don't *want* to die prematurely, after all. And chances are that you won't.

Term insurance plans will get more expensive as you age; your whole life policy won't change. You'll pay the same monthly premium for your whole life policy when you're ninety-eight than you paid when you purchased it back in 1950. You'll have paid it for many, many years, however. Regardless who "wins" –



you or the insurance company – your beneficiary will receive the payout, and you will have been nicely insured throughout your life. As you can see, buying permanent life insurance usually makes more sense if you are wealthy. And, if you are wealthy, it can make sense to buy the policy when you are relatively young.

Some advisers recommend that you purchase a term policy unless you want to use a permanent life insurance policy to prevent or pay for estate taxes that would kick in when you die. In 2024, estate taxes only apply to estates assessed at \$13.61 million dollars or more and that amount increases to \$27.22 million if you are married.



## Convertible Term Life Insurance

A **convertible term policy** is a term life insurance policy that

allows the insured to convert the policy to a permanent one without going through the insurability process again. If you opt for this, typically the benefit remains the same, but your monthly premium will increase when the policy switches.

This would be an excellent choice in certain circumstances. Suppose you bought a 10-year convertible term

policy, and in the ninth year, your health declined. You would be able to convert your policy to a permanent one and the premium would be determined on the basis of your previous medical examination and not your current health status.

Another reason you might opt for a convertible term policy is if you cannot afford a permanent policy but think you might want one in the future. You can purchase a term policy now and when you are ready – say, in 10 years – convert it.

If you are interested in convertible term policies, be careful to look at the details. There are often windows that limit when you can convert the policy. There are also typically age limits at which a conversion isn't allowed, at age 65 or age 75, for example.



## Sample Life Insurance Rates for Women, 2024

Age at purchase	Policy amount	20-year term life (cost per year)	30-year term life (cost per year)	Whole life (cost per year)
30	\$250,000	\$182	\$252	\$2,256
	\$500,000	\$275	\$414	\$4,416
	\$1,000,000	\$442	\$684	\$8,748
40	\$250,000	\$259	\$383	\$3,336
	\$500,000	\$423	\$658	\$6,528
	\$1,000,000	\$727	\$1,167	\$12,972
50	\$250,000	\$527	\$844	\$5,148
	\$500,000	\$939	\$1,549	\$10,116
	\$1,000,000	\$1,674	\$2,786	\$20,172
60	\$250,000	\$1,293	Not available.	\$8,400
	\$500,000	\$2,329		\$16,572
	\$1,000,000	\$4,254		\$33,072

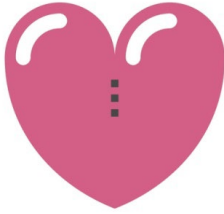
## Sample Life Insurance Rates for Men, 2024

Age at purchase	Policy amount	20-year term life (cost per year)	30-year term life (cost per year)	Whole life (cost per year)
30	\$250,000	\$218	\$303	\$2,592
	\$500,000	\$351	\$509	\$5,064
	\$1,000,000	\$586	\$862	\$10,068
40	\$250,000	\$304	\$475	\$3,912
	\$500,000	\$515	\$819	\$7,668
	\$1,000,000	\$902	\$1,468	\$15,276
50	\$250,000	\$680	\$1,131	\$5,998
	\$500,000	\$1,230	\$2,089	\$11,784
	\$1,000,000	\$2,259	\$3,786	\$23,508
60	\$250,000	\$1,792	Not available.	\$9,624
	\$500,000	\$3,217		\$18,984
	\$1,000,000	\$5,999		\$37,896

Sources: Term Life: <https://www.policygenius.com/life-insurance/>

Whole Life: <https://www.insuranceandestates.com/whole-life-insurance-rates-age-chart/>





## Your Life Insurance Medical Exam

What about the life insurance medical exam? The exam is usually performed by a nurse, not a doctor, and it may be performed in your home or in a location contracted by the insurance company.

Do not take the exam lightly. It is key to determining your insurability and the cost of your premiums.

Don't do anything excessive or strenuous before the exam. Don't be hungover, for example, and don't exercise vigorously at the gym just before your appointment. On the other hand, regular exercise for a few weeks or months – or years – prior to the exam would be an excellent idea.

### Life Insurance Medical Exams

The life insurance medical exam has two parts:

- A verbal questionnaire about your personal and family health. This is typically a confirmation of the information you've already provided in the paperwork of your application. The questionnaire will cover your physical health and also ask you about matters of your mental health, like depression.
- Standard readings of vital signs and sample collections. You will have your blood pressure checked, and the nurse will collect tissue samples from you, usually blood, urine, and saliva.

The entire exam will take approximately thirty minutes. The exam is intended to measure health indicators like:

- Body mass index (BMI)
- Blood pressure
- Cholesterol levels
- Liver and kidney function

You will also be tested for:

- Diabetes
- Hepatitis
- HIV
- Drug use
- Nicotine use
- Early signs of Alzheimer's



If the personal and health information that you gave on your application is contradicted by the medical exam, then you might be denied coverage. Alternatively, you might have to undergo more tests.

If you fail the exam or feel like something on the medical exam is incorrect, ask the insurance company to send you a copy of the results. Show them to your doctor. If you failed because of a mistake made by the insurance company, then your doctor should be able to help you remedy the situation quickly.

better idea of your overall health and can price your plan accordingly.

- Most no-exam policies have a limit to the amount of coverage you can get without a medical exam. For instance, you may not be able to get a \$1 million policy without a medical exam.

The medical exam required by most life insurance policies usually takes 30 minutes or less, so if you can save money on your policy and get the coverage amount you want, the medical exam is worth the time.



## No-Exam Life Insurance Policies

When shopping for life insurance, you might see ads for no-exam life insurance policies that you can easily buy online. A no-exam policy means that you don't have to take a medical exam to buy the policy. If you're considering a no-exam policy, keep these factors in mind:

- A no-exam policy will most likely cost more than a policy that requires a medical exam, especially if you are in good health. That's because when you have a medical exam, the life insurance company has a



## Disability Insurance

Think of **disability insurance** as income replacement insurance if you become unable to work. Disability insurance differs from **worker's compensation**. Worker's compensation is a government-mandated insurance system that varies from state to state, but in all cases it is set up to pay short-term benefits only when an employee suffers a job-related injury or illness.

Disability insurance, by contrast, is meant to replace some of your lost wages if you are injured or ill for reasons that are not work-related. Keep in mind that the majority of



disabling injuries and illnesses are NOT work-related.

Disability insurance makes sense for single people and married people. If you have a family or dependents that are reliant upon your income, then purchasing disability insurance is a good investment in their well-being.

What about **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**? This is a federal insurance program that you already participate in if you have social security deducted from your pay. There are nearly 156 million workers currently enrolled in the program.

Social Security has strict definitions for disability, usually more strict than private insurance. There are also

lengthy determination periods, often taking years. Further, the benefits are not robust. There is cap on the monthly benefit—around \$3,822 in 2024. This is a small percentage of a high-income earner's regular monthly salary. Moreover, the Social Security Administration uses a complex formula to determine benefits; the average benefit is around \$1,358 monthly.

Private disability insurance, by contrast, offers more liberal coverage and higher benefits, as well as more flexibility. For example, SSDI requires beneficiaries to prove that they are unable to perform any of the work required in any job, whereas private policies can be written to offer

## Social Security Disability Insurance

The determination of **disability** for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) has three parts:

1. You cannot do the work that you did before.
2. You are unable to take other work because of your disability.
3. Your disability has lasted, or is expected to last, for at least a year.

Social Security Disability Insurance isn't intended to help you during short-term periods of disability. It is only for total and long-term disability, where *total* means that you are unable to do *any* work and *long-term* means that you are disabled for more than one year.





**own occupation coverage.** This would mean, for example, that a brain surgeon who breaks a finger and is unable to operate for several months would qualify as disabled.

None of this is meant to downplay the role of Social Security Disability Insurance. It meets a vital need, and if you become disabled you should make use of SSDI if you qualify. Sometimes, a private insurer will deduct the amount of your SSDI payments (if you qualify for SSDI) from the benefit that they pay.

Disability insurance comes in two kinds: short-term and long-term.

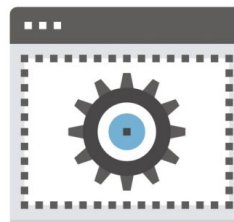
- **Short-term disability insurance** typically pays benefits for a maximum of twenty-six weeks (six months).
- **Long-term disability** benefits can extend until retirement. As you might imagine, long-term disability insurance is more costly than short-term.

According to Bureau of Labor Statistics, 40% of people in the work force have short-term disability insurance offered to them by their employer. In addition, 35% have access to long-term disability insurance<sup>4</sup>. Some states require employers to provide short-term

disability insurance to their employees. Other employers offer it as part of their benefits package. Sometimes employees will be given a sort of *a la carte* list of options for disability insurance, as they are with other benefits, like retirement accounts.

Historically, your employer would pay the full cost for disability insurance, at least for coverage up to a minimum level, and all employees were automatically enrolled.

More recently, however, when employers offer disability insurance as a benefit, it's commonly offered as a **voluntary benefit**. This means the employee will pay the full cost. Even if your employer pays nothing toward the cost of the disability insurance, however, remember that participation through group plan is still usually cheaper than anything you can purchase as an individual.



## Short-Term or Long-Term?

Which should you have? It's important to realize that these are not mutually exclusive options but two different tools. You *can* have both.

Short-term disability is more commonly provided as a workplace

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2020/short-term-and-long-term-disability-insurance-for-civilian-workers-in-2020.htm>



benefit than long-term, so you may already have it. If not, many advisers say that having an emergency savings fund that can keep you afloat for several months is a better option than buying a private short-term disability policy. Consider what you can afford. However, when it comes to long-term disability insurance, advisers will often encourage it.

Keep in mind as you consider your options that the majority of personal bankruptcies in the United States result from medical expenses that get out of hand. Anything you can do to reduce that risk is a good idea.



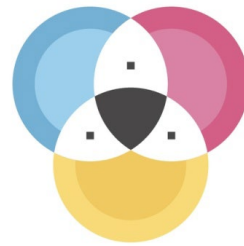
### Short-Term Policies: How They Work

Short-term plans typically provide a benefit that is up to 80% of your gross income.

Disabilities usually include chronic conditions such as heart disease, back problems, and cancer. They also include injuries sustained while *not at work*. Pregnancy is sometimes covered, too. *Injuries received at work are not covered.*

Most policies will replace a percentage of your income for a duration between one month and six months.

Your coverage can begin as soon as one day after your injury or a diagnosis, or up to 14 days after. This is one of the features that distinguish short-term from long-term disability insurance.



### Long Term Disability Policies: How They Work

Long-term disability insurance usually kicks in after a few months have passed since you stopped working. This is called the **elimination period**, or how long you have to wait before the benefit starts paying.

A longer elimination period is a key feature distinguishing long-term from short-term policies.

Long-term disability insurance typically replaces up to about two-thirds (66%) of your income, never more than that. This is called the **benefit amount**, usually expressed in terms of your monthly income. A figure of sixty percent is a common higher limit. Of course, lower benefit amounts will cost you less.

The **benefit period** is how long you will receive payments. Some policies have benefit periods of only two years, while others will continue payments until you reach retirement



age. Typical policies last for 2, 5, or 10 years, or until retirement.

An **exclusion** is a condition under which the benefit won't be paid. For example, this could be a pre-existing condition or an injury resulting from a dangerous hobby like mountain climbing.

### How much are the premiums?

Typically, long-term disability insurance will cost around *one to three percent* of your annual income. For example, if you make \$50,000 per year, you can expect to pay \$500-\$1,500 per year for long-term disability coverage. That works out to \$60-\$125 per month.

This will change dramatically if you are older when you are applying for a policy or if you work in a high-risk job.

If you are getting coverage through an employer-sponsored plan, your employer may pay some of the premium. If you are not covered through your employer, then you will have to take a medical exam that will help to determine your rate.

Long-term disability insurance makes the most sense for people whose careers require an investment of time and money. It also makes sense if you have family and children to support. Young professionals who are starting their careers with student loan debt can also benefit from it.



## What to Look for in a Long-Term Disability Policy

Here are some important features that many financial advisers recommend for inclusion in a premium long-term disability policy. You can opt for others.

- A 90-day elimination period (how long you have to wait before the benefit starts paying).
- A monthly benefit of 60% of your total gross income. Because the benefit on a personal policy is nontaxable income, this will be close to your existing take-home pay.
- An “own occupation” policy. This defines disability as the inability to work at your regular occupation. You don’t want your insurer to tell you that you can always get a lower salary job in an entirely different industry.
- A benefit period that lasts until age 67 or retirement. This type of policy costs more but if you are permanently disabled and you have a ten-year policy,



think of the situation you will be in when that policy expires.

- A non-cancelable and renewable policy. This way, your premiums will remain unchanged if you want to keep the policy.



## Final Expense Insurance

Final expense insurance is a small whole life insurance policy that will pay for your burial or cremation costs, funeral or memorial service expenses, final medical bills, nursing home bills, and other final expenses.

Since this is a whole life insurance policy, you are guaranteed that the benefit will be paid when you pass.

Final expense insurance can also be called burial insurance or funeral insurance.

The death benefit of final expense policies is small, usually ranging from \$2,000 to \$35,000.

Because the value of final expense insurance policies is small, they are easy to qualify for, particularly for

older people, and are usually affordable.

If you have a life insurance policy already, or have extensive wealth, then this insurance is probably not necessary.

But, if you don't have a life insurance policy, and you want to make sure that your funeral expenses are covered, and not left for your family to pay for, this insurance might give you peace of mind.

Similarly, if you have a life insurance policy from your employer, that policy does not necessarily come with you after you retire. Retirees who don't have their own individual life insurance, who don't have extensive wealth, and want to make sure their final expenses are covered, can usually qualify for final expense insurance.

Your heirs are not required to use the death benefit of these policies on funeral expenses, however. The money is paid out to your beneficiary upon your death, and they can use the money however they see fit. If you have specific plans in mind, make sure your beneficiaries know your wishes.



## How to Store Important Documents for Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, having easy access to your personal and financial information can make a big difference.

Keep your account information and important documents in a water-tight container or fire safe, and keep copies somewhere else, like a safe deposit box, a secure place at work, or with a trusted relative or friend.

### Make a list of account and customer service numbers for:

- Checking and savings accounts
- Credit and charge cards
- Mortgage and home equity loans
- Auto loans
- Student loans
- Personal loans
- Cable, telephone, and utility companies

### Make copies of your personal documents:

- Identification, including your driver's license or passport
- Social security cards
- Birth certificates
- Marriage certificates and divorce decrees
- Titles, deeds, car registrations

### Make copies of your insurance and financial records

- Insurance policies
- A room-by-room inventory of your belongings
- Investment records
- Income tax information
- Pay stubs and employer benefits records
- Wills, living wills, trusts, medical powers of attorney

### Back up computer files

If you keep financial records, passwords, family photos and videos on your computer, consider backing the information up to a secure cloud storage service, or back up your data regularly and keep the backups somewhere safe.

Source: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/blog/prepare-your-finances-for-emergencies/>





## Part 2: Estate Planning

You might think that estate planning is only for wealthy individuals, but that's not true. Whatever your situation, having your assets and finances in order will be helpful to your family in the event of your death.

Most financial advisers recommend to include the following elements in your estate plan.

1. Will or Trust
2. Durable Power of Attorney
3. Assignment of Beneficiaries
4. Letter of Intent
5. Healthcare Power of Attorney
6. Guardianship for Minor Children



### Write a Will

You should write a will if you haven't already. Having your affairs in order with a will can save your family time, money, and can help avoid a considerable amount of stress.

A **testament** is a statement of evidence. Every will has a **testator**, who is its subject (that's you). In a will, you declare an **executor**, also known as personal representative, who is responsible for managing your estate after your death. This is commonly a spouse, partner, family member, or family attorney. The executor is legally responsible for executing the deceased's wishes by navigating the estate (the collection of all the deceased's assets and holdings) through the **probate** phase. This process is usually handled through a probate court, and assures all taxes are paid and that the estate is distributed according to the instructions in the will.

It is common that the executor may also be the sole **beneficiary** of the will, a spouse or adult child who is to receive full control of the testator's estate. Note that beneficiaries specifically listed in an investment



account (such as a 401(k) or IRA) overrule anything stated in a will.

If a person dies *without* a valid will, their estate is considered **intestate**. Since there is no specified executor, a judge will appoint a court administrator to take the estate through probate. Such an administrator's primary concern is that the estate meets probate laws. The court administrator doesn't have any obligation to the wishes of surviving family.

When you are ready to prepare your will, there are a range of options. You don't legally need an attorney, as long as it meets your state's legal requirements. A simple hand-written document is recognizable as a will (you'll need a witness, usually someone who is not a potential beneficiary). There are numerous how-to guidebooks and kits for will preparation, online services, and software packages to help put together a will.

If you have a significant estate — if you're a homeowner, for example, with retirement accounts and other investments — then it is advisable to consult with an attorney. It can become a complex document, and an attorney will be able to notice mistakes or omissions which could lead to many thousands of dollars of unexpected taxes or legal fees for your heirs.

Make sure you know the laws in your state for having your will signed and *witnessed*. Witnesses should be at least eighteen years old and should not have any stake in the will. That means a beneficiary should not be a witness. A lawyer who helps draft a will is not a good witness to its signing either.

In some states you need multiple witnesses to a will; in others, a will needs to be notarized to be valid. If you are having your will notarized, you can have the witnesses sign a *self-proving affidavit* in front of the notary. This provides extra confirmation of the witnesses' signatures and identities and can save time in the probate process if there is any reason to contest the will.

Every will must name an executor. This is commonly a spouse, adult child, or trusted person close to the deceased. If your affairs are complex, it may make sense to name an attorney or a bank as executor of the will, to deal with any unexpected legal or financial questions which come up during the probate process. There is a fee, usually around two to four percent of the value of the estate, for employing an executor in this manner. Hiring a third party as an executor can also be smart if there are multiple beneficiaries, and if there is a possibility of family members coming into conflict over certain parts of the inheritance.





If you choose a personal executor who is not a beneficiary (say, a trusted friend, or a godparent to young children) it is a good idea to formally compensate them a similar amount of the estate, around two to four percent of your assets. Being executor of an estate is often a complicated, time-consuming task. Even after the probate process has ended and the assets in the will have been dispersed, the executor is still responsible for paying the deceased's bills and dealing with their debtors.

The will should be detailed and specific, and not contain any personal language. If you have final thoughts that you wish to share with your spouse or family after your passing, you can attach a personal letter to the will. The will itself should be kept simple and to the point. It *can* be a good idea to explicitly spell out if a family member is not included in the will, so that they will be unable to contest the will on the grounds of accidental omission.

Once you have your will prepared and signed, keep it in a secure yet accessible place. A probate court requires the signed original will – a signed copy is not sufficient. A fireproof, waterproof safe in your home is an ideal place to keep a will and other important documents. If the will is kept in a bank safety deposit box, your heirs might need a court order to gain access to it.

Finally, it's a good idea to review your will every three years or so, especially after any major changes in your life: marriage, divorce, birth of children, the death of anyone who might be an executor or beneficiary to the will.



## Durable Power of Attorney

Power of attorney is a legal document

that allows another person (the agent) to make legal decisions about another person's (the principal) property, finances or medical care. Traditional power of attorney ends when the principal becomes incapacitated. Durable power of attorney continues on so the agent can make decisions for the principal in the event they become ill, disabled, or mentally incapacitated. Having a durable power of attorney will ensure that your wishes are carried out, in the event that you become ill or disabled.

Be sure to choose your agent carefully. This person can be a spouse, trusted family member, or friend, or it can also be a professional like an attorney, accountant, or banker. The person you choose should be trustworthy and capable, since you are giving them legal authority to make decisions on your behalf.



Power of attorney rules and regulations vary state by state. Check the rules in your state to be sure. You can ask an estate planner, an attorney, or search online for the proper forms to fill out.

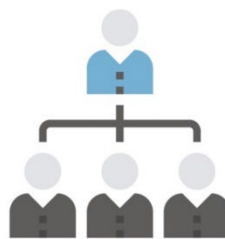
Make sure the following elements are part of your process:

1. Put your power of attorney designation in writing.
2. Specify the principal (that's you) and the person you identify as your agent, also called the attorney-in-fact in some states.
3. Indicate which powers you want to designate to your agent. Be specific. You can delegate responsibilities like handling finances and selling property and other assets.
4. Indicate whether the power of attorney is durable, which means that its power will carry on in the event that you are incapacitated. If it is not designated as durable, then the power of attorney will cease in the event you become ill or disabled.

In order to make your power of attorney fully legal, you might need to get the form notarized, record it with your county, or file it with a local court or other government office.

Requirements vary by state, so check to make sure you have completed the necessary steps to make sure everything is in order.

In the event that you want to change your power of attorney documents, you can write a letter to your former agent that clearly specifies that they are no longer named as your agent or attorney-in-fact.



## Assignment of Beneficiaries

Not all of your beneficiaries are named as part of your will. Some assets, like your 401(k) retirement savings account or your life insurance policy allow you to name a beneficiary with a simple form.

If you specify a beneficiary with your life insurance provider, that is what will be honored, regardless if your will names someone else. The same holds true with your retirement savings accounts.

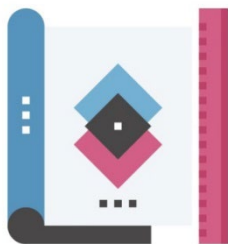
It is important to review your beneficiaries every few years, to make sure that the information doesn't need to be changed.

Be aware that minor children cannot take control of assets that are left to them. Either their legal guardian will



control the assets until the child turns 18 or 21, depending on your state. Or, the assets can be put in a trust to be held until the child comes of age.

Beneficiaries can also be charities or other organizations that you choose to leave money or assets to.



## Letter of Intent or Letter of Instruction

This is a document that you leave with your attorney or your beneficiary that outlines your wishes if you are disabled or in the event of your death. You might think this is already covered in your will, but what about if you become disabled or mentally incapacitated?

Experts suggest that a letter of intent include the following information:

- Important information about each of your children, including names, social security numbers, birth dates, and places of birth. You can include information on how you would like your children cared for in the event of your death, including living accommodations, family traditions, and other wishes you would like their guardian to carry out.
- A list of all of your assets, and their value.
- Instructions about the dispersal of your assets. Your will can refer to your letter of intent for instructions about how you would like your assets and possessions divided.
- Names, account numbers, PINs and passwords for all bank accounts and other investment accounts.
- Accounts and passwords for all email and social media accounts.
- Names and contact information for bankers, attorneys and other professionals who handle your assets.
- Charities for donations.
- A list of beneficiaries for insurance and investment accounts, along with their contact information.
- The location of important documents, like birth certificates, financial statements, tax documents, wills and trusts. Include titles and deeds, and safe deposit boxes.



- Contact information for creditors, including mortgages, car loans and credit cards.
- Contact information for insurance providers, like health insurance and life insurance.
- Care and placement instructions for pets.
- Funeral wishes and other special requests.

Note that a letter of intent is not legally binding, like a will. It is more like a guidebook to your final wishes and can be written in a more personal fashion than a will or trust.



## Healthcare Advance Directive/Living Will

Who will make medical decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so?

It can be a difficult subject to approach, but it is important to discuss end of life decisions with your family.

You can plan for future health care decisions by setting up an Advance Directive. This is a legal document that provides your directions or

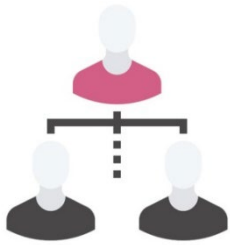
preferences concerning your future health care, also known as a Living Will. This document also allows you to appoint someone—a spouse, partner, trusted friend or relative—to act as a Health Care Proxy to make these decisions on your behalf if you are unable to make them on your own.

Be sure to discuss your healthcare wishes with the individual you select as a Health Care Proxy. You can also name one or two individuals to serve as backup agents.

Guidelines to set up an Advance Directive and to assign a Health Care Proxy vary by state. You can download forms for your state from the American Bar Association here: [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law\\_aging/resources/health\\_care\\_decision\\_making/Stateforms/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_aging/resources/health_care_decision_making/Stateforms/)

Sign and date these forms in front of a witness or witnesses. Some states also require that the form be notarized. The individual you select as a Health Care Proxy and your doctor should have a copy of this document.





## Establish Guardianship for Your Minor Children

If you have minor children, you should establish who you would like to raise them in the event of your death.

- Be sure to include this information in your will. If you do not, a court could place your children with a family member that you might not have selected, or they could become wards of the state.
- It is recommended to select one or two backups or alternate guardians.
- Ask permission before you select a guardian.
- Discuss your wishes about religion or other issues that are important to you with the person or couple that you designate as your child's guardian.
- Review your guardianship plans every few years to make sure they make sense. You can make changes if needed.



## Dealing With Financial Matters After the Death of a Spouse

The death of a spouse is life changing. Dealing with financial decisions may seem impossible as you are dealing with your own grief and sadness.

To locate a grief counselor, join a bereavement support group, or find other support, contact your local Area Agency on Aging or visit <http://eldercare.acl.gov/> to find local resources.

Designed to help surviving spouses navigate this incredibly difficult time, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau<sup>5</sup> has put together this financial checklist:

**Request 10-12 certified copies of the death certificate from the funeral home.** If you're not working with a funeral home, you can place an order for certified death certificates from your local Department of Health.

- Life insurance companies, creditors, your bank or credit union, or other companies may require you to provide a physical copy of the death

5

[https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb\\_surviving-spouse\\_booklet.pdf](https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_surviving-spouse_booklet.pdf)



certificate. Others may accept electronic copies.

### **Notify Social Security Administration (SSA) of your spouse's death.**

- If your spouse was receiving benefits, SSA does not pay them for the month of their death. So, if your spouse died in July and a payment was issued in August which is the payment for July, that payment will need to be returned to SSA. To avoid this, contact SSA right away. You need to find out when benefits will end, if money will be reclaimed, and when.
- Ask if you are eligible to receive a death benefit, which is a one-time lump sum payment paid to surviving spouses who qualify.
- Ask if you are eligible for ongoing monthly survivor benefits. If you have a dependent child, ask about survivor benefits for the child too.

**Notify the Department of Veterans Affairs.** If your spouse served in the military, call to find out whether you are eligible for benefits.

**Notify the Human Resources Department at your spouse's employer and former employers and spouse's union, if they had one.**

- Find out about unpaid salary, sick leave, or vacation leave.
- Also ask about retirement, pension, and union benefits. Find out if your spouse had an employer-sponsored life insurance plan.

### **Locate your Spouse's will and/or living trust (if they had one).**

- If your spouse had a will, it may need to go through a court process called probate. For free information about the probate process in your state, or to find legal assistance in your area, visit [LawHelp.org](http://LawHelp.org).
- If you are the executor of your spouse's will, (the individual named in the will as the person to carry out the wishes of the deceased) you are legally responsible for making sure your spouse's debts are paid from the estate and that remaining assets are properly distributed to heirs identified in the will.
- If you are not the executor of your spouse's will the named executor should contact you.

### **Locate Insurance Documents**

- Ask who is listed as beneficiary on your spouse's life insurance



policy and find out how benefits are paid.

- If you were covered through your spouse's medical or dental insurance, ask about keeping this insurance coverage. Find out if the insurance providers can help with funeral expenses.

### Make a New Budget

- When a spouse dies, there might be big changes to your income and expenses. Once you know what will change and by how much, make a new budget. You can use the bills worksheet as a guide.

### Notify your bank or credit union about your spouse's death.

- Your spouse's financial institutions can transfer the money from their accounts to a beneficiary.
- If you named your spouse as your beneficiary, you may need to name a new beneficiary. It's a good idea to make sure that your beneficiary is still who you want it to be.

**If you have a mortgage**, notify the company that sends you monthly mortgage statements. This is your mortgage servicer.

- Let them know that your spouse died.
- If you are a co-borrower on the mortgage, ask for your monthly payment amount, when it's due, and how much you still owe on the mortgage.
- If your name is not on the mortgage, the mortgage servicer may not give you information about the loan until you establish your identity and ownership interests in the property. Ask the mortgage servicer which documents to provide.
- If you are having trouble making your monthly mortgage payments or facing foreclosure, act quickly. Contact your mortgage servicer to learn about your options.
- Help is available. You can call the CFPB at (855) 411-2372 or visit [consumerfinance.gov/find-a-housing-counselor](https://consumerfinance.gov/find-a-housing-counselor) to find a housing counselor near you.

### Deal with Bills

- List your bills, the amount due, and the due date. Then pay the bills. Below are possible monthly bills you may be responsible for.



- Housing (mortgage or rent)
  - Cell phone
  - Electricity
  - Gas
  - Water/trash/sewer
  - Homeowner Association (HOA) dues
  - Home insurance
  - Property taxes
  - Cable/Internet
  - Car loan
  - Student loan
  - Credit cards
- You are usually not responsible for a spouse's debt. But it depends on the laws in your state. In some states (with community property or necessities laws), spouses can be responsible for certain marital debts.
  - You are responsible if the debt is also yours. For instance, if you borrowed the money as a co-signer or you were joint account owners, then you may share responsibility for the debt with your spouse's estate. An estate includes the money and property that someone owned when they died.
  - If you are the executor, administrator, or personal representative for your spouse's estate, this means you must use estate assets to settle your loved one's debts. It does not make you responsible for paying the debt with your own money.
  - Help is available. These rules can be hard to navigate, especially when you've recently lost a spouse. Visit <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/ask-cfpb/am-i-responsible-for-my-spouses-debts-after-they-die-en-1467> to learn more about dealing with debt after a loved one dies or to find a lawyer. You may qualify for free legal services. Visit [LawHelp.org](http://LawHelp.org) to find free legal aid programs in your state.
- Review your bank or credit union account statements carefully for recurring charges.**
- If you want to cancel an automatic payment from an account where you keep your money, contact the company to request that they stop these charges. After that, contact your bank or credit union and tell them that these charges are





no longer authorized. Then, give your bank a stop payment order.

**Be sure to update information with insurance companies and utility companies.**

**Remember that you will need to file your spouse's tax return for the year of passing.** That can be complicated, so you may want to work with a professional.

**Review and update your own estate planning documents** including your will, any medical power of attorney designations, and other arrangements such as trusts.

- If your spouse was a named beneficiary, make sure you name a new beneficiary.
- If you have dependents (children, grandchildren, or parents), you can plan for their continued care or guardianship in the event that you're unable to provide care. You can also plan for the care of any pets.
- If your spouse owned any businesses, consider contacting an attorney or financial advisor to learn what steps are needed to transition or otherwise dissolve those businesses.

**Review online accounts.**

- If you have access to your late spouse's email account, you may be able to locate information about bills, subscriptions, etc. When you no longer require access to this account, it's best to close the account to help prevent identity theft.
- Delete or memorialize social media accounts.

**Change or cancel clubs and memberships that are in your spouse's name.**

- Change the memberships you want to keep to your name only, and cancel the ones you don't want or need. If you cancel a long-term membership, you may need to keep paying dues until the membership term ends.

**Obtain a copy of your late spouse's credit report.**

- Notify the three credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) of your partner's death and ask for copy of their credit report.
- This will help you identify accounts and debts in your partner's name and will also prevent people from opening



fraudulent accounts in your partner's name.

### Reassess your long-term financial goals.

- Reassess your retirement plans going forward (if you are not yet retired) and estimate how your expenses and income will change during retirement.

**Review your housing situation** to make sure that it still meets your emotional, physical, and financial needs.

### Make An Asset List

- Create an inventory of assets. Knowing how much you have in various accounts will help you develop and stick to a budget.
- Your new inventory will help you update your heirs. You can use these assets worksheets as guides. Keep in mind the following:
  - Checking accounts
  - Savings accounts
  - Retirement accounts (401K, 403B, Roth IRA, IRA)
  - Bonds
  - Annuities

- Life Insurance
- Real estate
- Physical assets (jewelry, art, etc.)
- Vehicles (cars, boats, motorcycles)

### Gather Important Documents

- Gather important documents in a secure box or filing cabinet. These documents may help you manage your finances after the loss of your spouse. They may also help your loved ones if they need to find them in the future.
  - Will/trust
  - Life insurance policy(s)
  - Your spouse's birth certificate
  - Marriage certificate
  - Death certificates
  - Social security cards for both of you
  - Tax returns
  - Statements for bank or investment accounts
  - Pension/retirement plan statements



- Loan statements
  - Mortgages
  - Leases
  - Deeds
  - Motor vehicle titles
  - Car insurance documents
  - Homeowner's insurance documents
  - Health insurance
  - Safe deposit box information and key
  - Documents for any of spouse's partially owned businesses
  - Military service records
  - Important documents such as car titles, house deeds, and stock certificates are often in joint safe deposit boxes. You may forget about them after several years. If you believe your spouse had a safe deposit box but are not sure where it is located, try calling the financial institutions where you and your spouse held accounts.
- You can download your own copy of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Financial Checklist at [https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb\\_surviving-spouse\\_booklet.pdf](https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/cfpb_surviving-spouse_booklet.pdf)
- Scan important documents and save them in a password-protected file. If you don't own a scanner, you can take photos of the documents and save them electronically in a password protected folder. If you lose your papers, this file can help you recover essential information.
  - Locate and review the contents of any safe deposit boxes held in your spouse's name.





# Weiss Ratings' Recommended Life Insurance Providers

The following pages list Weiss Ratings' Recommended Life Insurance Providers (based strictly on financial safety). These insurers currently receive a Weiss Safety Rating of A+, A, A-, B+, or B, indicating their strong financial position. Companies are listed by their Safety Rating and then alphabetically within each Safety Rating grouping.

If an insurer is not on this list, it should not be automatically assumed that the firm is weak. Indeed, there are many firms that have not achieved a B- or better rating but are in relatively good condition with adequate resources to cover their risk. Not being included in this list should not be construed as a recommendation to cancel a policy.

To get Weiss Safety Rating for a company not included here, go to <https://greyhouse.weissratings.com>.

<b>Insurer Name</b>	The insurance company's legally registered name, which can sometimes differ from the name that the company uses for advertising. An insurer's name can be very similar to the name of other companies which may not be on this list, so make sure you note the exact name before contacting your agent.
<b>Weiss Safety Rating</b>	Our rating is measured on a scale from A to F and considers a wide range of factors. Highly rated companies are, in our opinion, less likely to experience financial difficulties than lower-rated firms. See "What Our Ratings Mean" in the Appendix for a definition of each rating category.
<b>City &amp; State</b>	The city in which the company's corporate office is located and the state in which the company's corporate office is located.
<b>Licensed In</b>	The states in which an insurer is licensed to conduct business.
<b>Website</b>	The company's web address
<b>Telephone</b>	The telephone number to call for information on purchasing an insurance policy from the company.

The following list of Recommended Life Insurance Providers is based on ratings as of the date of publication, March 28, 2024. Visit <https://greyhouse.weissratings.com> to see the latest ratings.



# A+ Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: Madison, WI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.amfam.com](http://www.amfam.com)  
Telephone: (608) 249-2111

Insurer: **CHESAPEAKE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: North Richland Hills, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NJ, NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.healthmarketsinc.com](http://www.healthmarketsinc.com)  
Telephone: (817) 255-3100

Insurer: **COUNTRY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: Bloomington, IL  
Licensed In: All states except CA, DC, HI, NH, NJ, NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.countryfinancial.com](http://www.countryfinancial.com)  
Telephone: (309) 821-3000

Insurer: **PHYSICIANS MUTUAL INS CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.physiciansmutual.com](http://www.physiciansmutual.com)  
Telephone: (402) 633-1000

Insurer: **STATE FARM LIFE & ACCIDENT ASR CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: Bloomington, IL  
Licensed In: CT, IL, NY, WI  
Website: [www.statefarm.com](http://www.statefarm.com)  
Telephone: (309) 766-2311

Insurer: **STATE FARM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: Bloomington, IL  
Licensed In: All states except MA, NY, WI, PR  
Website: [www.statefarm.com](http://www.statefarm.com)  
Telephone: (309) 766-2311

Insurer: **TEACHERS INS & ANNUITY ASN OF AM**  
Rating: A+  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.tiaa.org](http://www.tiaa.org)  
Telephone: (212) 490-9000



## A Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **AMERICAN CONTINENTAL INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Franklin, TN  
Licensed In: All states except AK, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, ID, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA, PR  
Website: [www.aetnaseniorproducts.com](http://www.aetnaseniorproducts.com)  
Telephone: (800) 264-4000

Insurer: **AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE ASR CO OF NY**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Albany, NY  
Licensed In: CT, MA, NJ, NY, ND, VT  
Website: [www.aflac.com](http://www.aflac.com)  
Telephone: (706) 243-8708

Insurer: **AMERICAN HEALTH & LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.onemainsolutions.com](http://www.onemainsolutions.com)  
Telephone: (800) 307-0048

Insurer: **FEDERATED LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Owatonna, MN  
Licensed In: All states except AK, DC, HI, PR  
Website: [www.federatedinsurance.com](http://www.federatedinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (507) 455-5200

Insurer: **FRANDISCO LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Toccoa, GA  
Licensed In: GA  
Website: [www.1ffc.com](http://www.1ffc.com)  
Telephone: (706) 886-7571

Insurer: **GARDEN STATE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Galveston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.americannational.com](http://www.americannational.com)  
Telephone: (409) 763-4661

Insurer: **GUARDIAN LIFE INS CO OF AMERICA**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.guardianlife.com](http://www.guardianlife.com)  
Telephone: (212) 598-8000



Insurer: **SENTRY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Stevens Point, WI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.sentry.com](http://www.sentry.com)  
Telephone: (715) 346-6000

Insurer: **SHELTERPOINT LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Garden City, NY  
Licensed In: CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, IL, MD, MA, MI, MN, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, TN  
Website: [www.shelterpoint.com](http://www.shelterpoint.com)  
Telephone: (516) 829-8100

Insurer: **SOUTHERN FARM BUREAU LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: Jackson, MS  
Licensed In: AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, VA  
Website: [www.sfbli.com](http://www.sfbli.com)  
Telephone: (601) 981-7422

Insurer: **STANDARD LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: A  
Headquarters: White Plains, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.standard.com](http://www.standard.com)  
Telephone: (914) 989-4400

## A- Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **BLUEBONNET LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Jackson, MS  
Licensed In: AL, AR, LA, MS, TN  
Telephone: (601) 664-4218

Insurer: **CENTRAL STATES H & L CO OF OMAHA**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.cso.com](http://www.cso.com)  
Telephone: (402) 397-1111

Insurer: **COUNTRY INVESTORS LIFE ASR CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Bloomington, IL  
Licensed In: All states except CA, DC, HI, NH, NJ, NY, UT, VT, PR  
Website: [www.countryfinancial.com](http://www.countryfinancial.com)  
Telephone: (309) 821-3000





Insurer: **DELAWARE AMERICAN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Wilmington, DE  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.metlife.com](http://www.metlife.com)  
Telephone: (302) 594-2000

Insurer: **FARM BUREAU LIFE INS CO OF MICHIGAN**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Lansing, MI  
Licensed In: MI, OH, OK  
Website: [www.farmbureauinsurance-mi.com](http://www.farmbureauinsurance-mi.com)  
Telephone: (517) 323-7000

Insurer: **FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Kansas City, MO  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.fslins.com](http://www.fslins.com)  
Telephone: (816) 756-1060

Insurer: **FIRST RELIANCE STANDARD LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: DC, DE, NY  
Website: [www.reliancestandard.com](http://www.reliancestandard.com)  
Telephone: (212) 303-8400

Insurer: **NATIONAL BENEFIT LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Long Island City, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.nationalbenefitlife.com](http://www.nationalbenefitlife.com)  
Telephone: (718) 361-3636

Insurer: **NATIONAL HEALTH INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Dallas, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: <https://nationalgeneral.com>  
Telephone: (888) 781-0580

Insurer: **NEW YORK LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: <http://www.newyorklife.com>  
Telephone: (212) 576-7000



Insurer: **PACIFIC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Newport Beach, CA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.pacificlife.com](http://www.pacificlife.com)  
Telephone: (949) 219-3943

Insurer: **PARKER CENTENNIAL ASR CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Stevens Point, WI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.sentry.com](http://www.sentry.com)  
Telephone: (715) 346-6000

Insurer: **TRUSTMARK LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Lake Forest, IL  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.trustmarkcompanies.com](http://www.trustmarkcompanies.com)  
Telephone: (847) 615-1500

Insurer: **UNITED NATIONAL LIFE INS CO OF AM**  
Rating: A-  
Headquarters: Glenview, IL  
Licensed In: All states except AK, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, ME, MD, MA, MT, NH, NJ, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA, PR  
Website: <https://unlinsurance.com>  
Telephone: (847) 803-5252

## B+ Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **AAA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Livonia, MI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Telephone: (734) 779-2600

Insurer: **AMERICAN FIDELITY ASR CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Oklahoma City, OK  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: <https://americanfidelity.com>  
Telephone: (405) 523-2000

Insurer: **ASSURITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Lincoln, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.assurity.com](http://www.assurity.com)  
Telephone: (402) 476-6500



Insurer: **BERKLEY LIFE & HEALTH INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Urbandale, IA  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.berkley.com](http://www.berkley.com)  
Telephone: (609) 584-6990

Insurer: **BEST LIFE & HEALTH INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Corona Del Mar, CA  
Licensed In: All states except CT, DE, ME, MA, MN, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, WV, WI, PR  
Website: [www.bestlife.com](http://www.bestlife.com)  
Telephone: (949) 253-4080

Insurer: **BOSTON MUTUAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Canton, MA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.bostonmutual.com](http://www.bostonmutual.com)  
Telephone: (781) 828-7000

Insurer: **CHRISTIAN FIDELITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Phoenix, AZ  
Licensed In: All states except AK, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, VT, WI, PR  
Website: [www.oxfordlife.com](http://www.oxfordlife.com)  
Telephone: (602) 263-6666

Insurer: **COMPANION LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Columbia, SC  
Licensed In: All states except CA, CT, HI, NJ, NY, PR  
Website: [www.companionlife.com](http://www.companionlife.com)  
Telephone: (803) 735-1251

Insurer: **COMPANION LIFE INS CO OF CA**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Columbia, CA  
Licensed In: AZ, CA, HI, MT, TX, WY  
Website: <http://www.thedoctors.com>  
Telephone: (803) 735-1251

Insurer: **EMPIRE FIDELITY INVESTMENTS L I C**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Smithfield, RI  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.fidelity.com](http://www.fidelity.com)  
Telephone: (401) 292-4717



Insurer: **ENTERPRISE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: AZ, AR, IL, KS, LA, MS, NE, NM, OK, OR, TX, WI  
Telephone: (817) 878-3300

Insurer: **FARM BUREAU LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: W Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In: AZ, CO, ID, IA, KS, MN, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, UT, WA, WI, WY  
Website: [www.fbfs.com](http://www.fbfs.com)  
Telephone: (515) 225-5400

Insurer: **FREEDOM LIFE INS CO OF AMERICA**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: All states except AK, CA, CT, DC, HI, ID, ME, MA, MT, NH, NJ, NY, ND, RI, VT, WI, PR  
Website: [www.ushealthgroup.com](http://www.ushealthgroup.com)  
Telephone: (817) 878-3300

Insurer: **GERBER LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: White Plains, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.gerberlife.com](http://www.gerberlife.com)  
Telephone: (914) 272-4000

Insurer: **HM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Pittsburgh, PA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.hmig.com](http://www.hmig.com)  
Telephone: (800) 328-5433

Insurer: **HM LIFE INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Pittsburgh, PA  
Licensed In: DC, NY, RI  
Website: [www.hmig.com](http://www.hmig.com)  
Telephone: (800) 328-5433

Insurer: **ILLINOIS MUTUAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Peoria, IL  
Licensed In: All states except AK, DC, HI, NY, PR  
Website: [www.illinoismutual.com](http://www.illinoismutual.com)  
Telephone: (309) 674-8255



Insurer: **LIFE INS CO OF BOSTON & NEW YORK**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Athol Springs, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.lifeofboston.com](http://www.lifeofboston.com)  
Telephone: (800) 645-2317

Insurer: **M LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Portland, OR  
Licensed In: AZ, CO, DE, IA, MI, NE, NJ, OH  
Website: [www.mfin.com](http://www.mfin.com)  
Telephone: (503) 414-7336

Insurer: **NATIONAL FARMERS UNION LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Kansas City, MO  
Licensed In: All states except AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, LA, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, NC, RI, SC, TN, VT, WV, PR  
Website: [www.americo.com](http://www.americo.com)  
Telephone: (816) 391-2000

Insurer: **NATIONAL FOUNDATION LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: All states except CT, FL, HI, IL, MD, MA, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, WV, WI, PR  
Website: [www.nfl-ins.com](http://www.nfl-ins.com)  
Telephone: (817) 878-3300

Insurer: **NIAGARA LIFE & HEALTH INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Columbia, SC  
Licensed In: CT, NY  
Telephone: (803) 735-1251

Insurer: **NORTHWESTERN LONG TERM CARE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Milwaukee, WI  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.northwesternmutual.com](http://www.northwesternmutual.com)  
Telephone: (414) 271-1444

Insurer: **NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Milwaukee, WI  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.northwesternmutual.com](http://www.northwesternmutual.com)  
Telephone: (414) 271-1444



Insurer: **NYLIFE INS CO OF ARIZONA**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except ME, NY, PR  
Website: [www.newyorklife.com](http://www.newyorklife.com)  
Telephone: (212) 576-7000

Insurer: **OLD REPUBLIC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Chicago, IL  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.oldrepublic.com](http://www.oldrepublic.com)  
Telephone: (312) 346-8100

Insurer: **OXFORD LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Phoenix, AZ  
Licensed In: All states except NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.oxfordlife.com](http://www.oxfordlife.com)  
Telephone: (602) 263-6666

Insurer: **PACIFIC LIFE & ANNUITY CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Newport Beach, CA  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.pacificlife.com](http://www.pacificlife.com)  
Telephone: (949) 219-3011

Insurer: **PHYSICIANS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.physiciansmutual.com](http://www.physiciansmutual.com)  
Telephone: (402) 633-1000

Insurer: **STANDARD INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Portland, OR  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.standard.com](http://www.standard.com)  
Telephone: (800) 247-6888

Insurer: **SYMETRA NATIONAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Seattle, WA  
Licensed In: All states except AK, HI, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, WY, PR  
Website: [www.symetra.com](http://www.symetra.com)  
Telephone: (425) 256-8000



Insurer: **TENNESSEE FARMERS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Columbia, TN  
Licensed In: TN  
Website: [www.fbitn.com](http://www.fbitn.com)  
Telephone: (931) 388-7872

Insurer: **TRANS WORLD ASR CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: San Mateo, CA  
Licensed In: All states except NH, NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.twalife.com](http://www.twalife.com)  
Telephone: (650) 348-2300

Insurer: **UNITED WORLD LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except CT, NY, PR  
Website: [www.mutualofomaha.com](http://www.mutualofomaha.com)  
Telephone: (402) 342-7600

Insurer: **USAA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B+  
Headquarters: San Antonio, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com)  
Telephone: (210) 531-8722

## B Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **4 EVER LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Oakbrook Terrace, IL  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.bcsf.com/4-ever-life/](http://www.bcsf.com/4-ever-life/)  
Telephone: (630) 472-7700

Insurer: **AAA LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Livonia, MI  
Licensed In:  
Telephone: (844) 985-0592

Insurer: **ADVANCE INS CO OF KANSAS**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Topeka, KS  
Licensed In: KS  
Website: [www.advanceinsurance.com](http://www.advanceinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (785) 273-9804



Insurer: **AETNA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Hartford, CT  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.aetna.com](http://www.aetna.com)  
Telephone: (800) 872-3862

Insurer: **AMERICAN BANKERS LIFE ASR CO OF FL**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Miami, FL  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.assurant.com](http://www.assurant.com)  
Telephone: (305) 253-2244

Insurer: **AMERICAN BENEFIT LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Dallas, TX  
Licensed In: All states except CT, NY, WA, WY, PR  
Telephone: (469) 522-4400

Insurer: **AMERICAN FARM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: NM, OK, TX  
Website: [www.americanfarmlife.com](http://www.americanfarmlife.com)  
Telephone: (817) 451-9550

Insurer: **AMERICAN FIDELITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Pensacola, FL  
Licensed In: All states except NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.amfilife.com](http://www.amfilife.com)  
Telephone: (850) 456-7401

Insurer: **AMERICAN GENERAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Houston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.corebridgefinancial.com/legal-notice](http://www.corebridgefinancial.com/legal-notice)  
Telephone: (713) 522-1111

Insurer: **AMERICAN LIFE & ANNUITY CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Abilene, TX  
Licensed In: AR  
Telephone: (325) 695-3412

Insurer: **AMERICAN MATURITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Windsor, CT  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.talcottresolution.com](http://www.talcottresolution.com)  
Telephone: (800) 862-6668





Insurer: **AMERICAN MEMORIAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Madison, WI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.trustage.com](http://www.trustage.com)  
Telephone: (608) 238-5851

Insurer: **AMERICAN NATIONAL INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Galveston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.americannational.com](http://www.americannational.com)  
Telephone: (409) 763-4661

Insurer: **AMERICAN NATIONAL LIFE INS CO OF TX**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Galveston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except ME, NJ, NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.americannational.com](http://www.americannational.com)  
Telephone: (409) 763-4461

Insurer: **AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Oklahoma City, OK  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.ampublic.com](http://www.ampublic.com)  
Telephone: (601) 936-6600

Insurer: **AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lincoln, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.ameritas.com](http://www.ameritas.com)  
Telephone: (800) 311-7871

Insurer: **AMICA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Providence, RI  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.amica.com](http://www.amica.com)  
Telephone: (800) 652-6422

Insurer: **ANNUITY INVESTORS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: All states except NY, VT, PR  
Website: [www.massmutualascend.com](http://www.massmutualascend.com)  
Telephone: (513) 361-9000



Insurer: **ASSURITY LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lincoln, NE  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.assurity.com](http://www.assurity.com)  
Telephone: (402) 476-6500

Insurer: **BENEFICIAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Salt Lake City, UT  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.beneficialfinancialgroup.com](http://www.beneficialfinancialgroup.com)  
Telephone: (801) 933-1100

Insurer: **BERKSHIRE LIFE INS CO OF AMERICA**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Pittsfield, MA  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.guardianlife.com](http://www.guardianlife.com)  
Telephone: (413) 499-4321

Insurer: **BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA L&H INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Oakland, CA  
Licensed In: CA  
Website: [www.blueshieldca.com](http://www.blueshieldca.com)  
Telephone: (888) 800-2742

Insurer: **CINCINNATI EQUITABLE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: GA, IN, KY, MI, MS, OH, PA, TN  
Website: [www.cineqlife.com](http://www.cineqlife.com)  
Telephone: (513) 621-1826

Insurer: **CM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Springfield, MA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.massmutual.com](http://www.massmutual.com)  
Telephone: (413) 788-8411

Insurer: **CMFG LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Madison, WI  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.trustage.com](http://www.trustage.com)  
Telephone: (608) 238-5851



Insurer: **CONTINENTAL AMERICAN INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Columbia, SC  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.caicworksite.com](http://www.caicworksite.com)  
Telephone: (706) 243-8708

Insurer: **COTTON STATES LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Bloomington, IL  
Licensed In: AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA  
Website: [www.countryfinancial.com](http://www.countryfinancial.com)  
Telephone: (309) 821-3000

Insurer: **CSI LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.csi-omaha.com](http://www.csi-omaha.com)  
Telephone: (402) 997-8000

Insurer: **ELCO MUTUAL LIFE & ANNUITY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lake Bluff, IL  
Licensed In: All states except MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, PR  
Website: [www.elcomutual.com](http://www.elcomutual.com)  
Telephone: (847) 295-6000

Insurer: **EMC NATIONAL LIFE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In: All states except NJ, NY, PR  
Website: [www.emcnationallife.com](http://www.emcnationallife.com)  
Telephone: (515) 237-2000

Insurer: **ENCOVA LIFE INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Columbus, OH  
Licensed In: AR, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, MA, MI, MN, MO, NE, NH, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, WV, WI  
Website: [www.encova.com](http://www.encova.com)  
Telephone: (614) 225-8211

Insurer: **FARM BUREAU LIFE INS CO OF MISSOURI**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Jefferson City, MO  
Licensed In: MO  
Website: [www.mofbinsurance.com](http://www.mofbinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (573) 893-1400



- Insurer: **FIDELITY INVESTMENTS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Smithfield, RI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.fidelity.com](http://www.fidelity.com)  
Telephone: (401) 292-4717
- Insurer: **FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Kansas City, MO  
Licensed In: MS, NY  
Website: [www.fslins.com](http://www.fslins.com)  
Telephone: (800) 821-7303
- Insurer: **FIRST ASR LIFE OF AMERICA**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Baton Rouge, LA  
Licensed In: LA, MS  
Website: [www.theldsgroup.com/products/first-assurance-lif](http://www.theldsgroup.com/products/first-assurance-lif)  
Telephone: (225) 769-9923
- Insurer: **FIRST SECURITY BENEFIT LIFE & ANN**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: KS, NY  
Website: [www.fsbl.com](http://www.fsbl.com)  
Telephone: (800) 355-4570
- Insurer: **FORETHOUGHT LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Indianapolis, IN  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.globalatlantic.com](http://www.globalatlantic.com)  
Telephone: (317) 223-2700
- Insurer: **FUNERAL DIRECTORS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Abilene, TX  
Licensed In: All states except DC, ME, NY, PR  
Website: [www.funeraldirectorslife.com](http://www.funeraldirectorslife.com)  
Telephone: (325) 695-3412
- Insurer: **GENWORTH LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Richmond, VA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.genworth.com](http://www.genworth.com)  
Telephone: (804) 662-2400



Insurer: **GLOBE LIFE INSURANCE CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Syracuse, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.globelifeofnewyork.com](http://www.globelifeofnewyork.com)  
Telephone: (315) 451-2544

Insurer: **GPM HEALTH & LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Antonio, TX  
Licensed In: All states except AK, AR, CT, DC, DE, LA, ME, MA, MN, NH, NJ, NY, RI, SD, VT, PR  
Website: [www.gpmhealthandlife.com](http://www.gpmhealthandlife.com)  
Telephone: (210) 357-2222

Insurer: **GREENFIELDS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: West Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.greenfieldslife.com](http://www.greenfieldslife.com)  
Telephone: (515) 225-5400

Insurer: **GUARANTEE TRUST LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Glenview, IL  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.gtlic.com](http://www.gtlic.com)  
Telephone: (847) 699-0600

Insurer: **GUARANTY INCOME LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Baton Rouge, LA  
Licensed In: All states except AK, HI, ME, NY, PR  
Website: [www.gilico.com](http://www.gilico.com)  
Telephone: (225) 383-0355

Insurer: **GUARDIAN INS & ANNUITY CO INC**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.guardianlife.com](http://www.guardianlife.com)  
Telephone: (212) 598-8714

Insurer: **HANNOVER LIFE REASSURANCE CO OF AMER**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Orlando, FL  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.hannover-re.com](http://www.hannover-re.com)  
Telephone: (407) 649-8411



Insurer: **HARLEYSVILLE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Columbus, OH  
Licensed In: All states except AK, CA, CO, HI, ID, KS, LA, ME, MS, MO, MT, NV, NY, OK, OR, VT, WA, WY, PR  
Website: [www.nationwide.com/harleystville-insurance.jsp](http://www.nationwide.com/harleystville-insurance.jsp)  
Telephone: (800) 882-2822

Insurer: **HCC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Kennesaw, GA  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.tmhcc.com](http://www.tmhcc.com)  
Telephone: (770) 973-9851

Insurer: **HEALTH NET LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Saint Louis, MO  
Licensed In: All states except MI, NY, PR  
Website: [www.healthnet.com](http://www.healthnet.com)  
Telephone: (314) 725-4477

Insurer: **HOMESTEADERS LIFE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.homesteaderslife.com](http://www.homesteaderslife.com)  
Telephone: (515) 440-7777

Insurer: **HORACE MANN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Springfield, IL  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.horacemann.com](http://www.horacemann.com)  
Telephone: (217) 789-2500

Insurer: **HUMANA INS CO OF KENTUCKY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Louisville, KY  
Licensed In: CA, CO, IN, IA, KY, MI, MS, OR, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI  
Website: [www.humana.com](http://www.humana.com)  
Telephone: (502) 580-1000

Insurer: **HUMANA INS CO OF PUERTO RICO INC**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Juan, PR  
Licensed In: PR  
Website: [www.humana.com](http://www.humana.com)  
Telephone: (787) 282-7900



Insurer: **INTRAMERICA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Hauppauge, NY  
Licensed In: AZ, AR, CT, FL, HI, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MO, NE, NV, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OR, PA, TX, UT, VT, WY  
Website: [www.allstate.com](http://www.allstate.com)  
Telephone: (631) 357-8923

Insurer: **JACKSON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lansing, MI  
Licensed In: DE, MI, NY  
Website: [www.jackson.com](http://www.jackson.com)  
Telephone: (517) 381-5500

Insurer: **JEFFERSON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Louisville, KY  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.nationwideadvisory.com](http://www.nationwideadvisory.com)  
Telephone: (866) 667-0561

Insurer: **JOHN HANCOCK LIFE & HEALTH INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Boston, MA  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.johnhancock.com](http://www.johnhancock.com)  
Telephone: (617) 572-6000

Insurer: **KENTUCKY FUNERAL DIRECTORS LIFE INS**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Abilene, TX  
Licensed In: KY  
Website: [www.kfdlic.com](http://www.kfdlic.com)  
Telephone: (325) 695-3412

Insurer: **LAFAYETTE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.westernsouthern.com/lafayette](http://www.westernsouthern.com/lafayette)  
Telephone: (513) 362-4900

Insurer: **LEADERS LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Tulsa, OK  
Licensed In: AL, AR, FL, GA, KS, LA, MS, MO, NM, NC, OK, SC, SD, TX  
Website: [www.leaderslife.com](http://www.leaderslife.com)  
Telephone: (918) 254-0200



- Insurer: **LEGACY LIFE INS CO OF MO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Jefferson City, MO  
Licensed In: MO, NE, NV, NM, OH, OK  
Website: [www.mofbinsurance.com](http://www.mofbinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (573) 893-1400
- Insurer: **LIFE INS CO OF NORTH AMERICA**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Telephone: (212) 576-7000
- Insurer: **LIFE INS CO OF THE SOUTHWEST**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Dallas, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.nationallife.com](http://www.nationallife.com)  
Telephone: (214) 638-7100
- Insurer: **LIFESECURE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Brighton, MI  
Licensed In: All states except FL, NY, PR  
Website: [www.yourlifefecure.com](http://www.yourlifefecure.com)  
Telephone: (810) 220-7700
- Insurer: **LINCOLN LIFE & ANNUITY CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Fort Wayne, IN  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.lfg.com](http://www.lfg.com)  
Telephone: (800) 444-2363
- Insurer: **LOCOMOTIVE ENGRS&COND MUT PROT ASSN**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Southfield, MI  
Licensed In: MI, NE, NM, TX  
Website: [www.lcempa.org](http://www.lcempa.org)  
Telephone: (800) 514-0010
- Insurer: **MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO INC**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Madison, WI  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.madisonlife.com](http://www.madisonlife.com)  
Telephone: (800) 356-9601





Insurer: **MANHATTAN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Houston, TX  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.manhattanlife.com](http://www.manhattanlife.com)  
Telephone: (713) 529-0045

Insurer: **MAPFRE LIFE INS CO OF PR**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Juan, PR  
Licensed In: PR  
Website: [www.mapfre.pr](http://www.mapfre.pr)  
Telephone: (787) 250-6500

Insurer: **MEDMUTUAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cleveland, OH  
Licensed In: All states except AL, AK, CA, CT, FL, HI, ID, ME, MA, NH, NY, NC, RI, TN, VT, WA, PR  
Website: [www.medmutuallife.com](http://www.medmutuallife.com)  
Telephone: (216) 687-7000

Insurer: **MEMBERS LIFE INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Waverly, IA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Telephone: (319) 352-4090

Insurer: **METROPOLITAN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [metlife.com](http://metlife.com)  
Telephone: (212) 578-9000

Insurer: **MIDLAND NATIONAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: West Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.midlandnational.com](http://www.midlandnational.com)  
Telephone: (515) 440-5500

Insurer: **MIDWESTERN UNITED LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: West Chester, PA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.resolutionlife.com](http://www.resolutionlife.com)  
Telephone: (929) 521-7921



Insurer: **MUTUAL OF AMERICA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.mutualofamerica.com](http://www.mutualofamerica.com)  
Telephone: (212) 224-1600

Insurer: **MUTUAL OF OMAHA INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: <http://www.mutualofomaha.com>  
Telephone: (800) 775-6000

Insurer: **MUTUAL TRUST LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New Orleans, LA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.mutualtrust.com](http://www.mutualtrust.com)  
Telephone: (504) 566-1300

Insurer: **NATIONAL FARM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX  
Licensed In: TX  
Telephone: (817) 451-9550

Insurer: **NATIONAL INCOME LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Syracuse, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.nilife.com](http://www.nilife.com)  
Telephone: (315) 451-8180

Insurer: **NATIONAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Montpelier, VT  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.nationallife.com](http://www.nationallife.com)  
Telephone: (802) 229-3333

Insurer: **NORTH AMERICAN CO FOR LIFE & H INS**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Sioux Falls, SD  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.northamericancompany.com](http://www.northamericancompany.com)  
Telephone: (515) 440-5500



Insurer: **NORTH AMERICAN INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Phoenix, AZ  
Licensed In: AL, CO, DC, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NM, ND, OH, OK, OR,  
PA, SC, TX, WI  
Website: [www.oxfordlife.com](http://www.oxfordlife.com)  
Telephone: (877) 667-9368

Insurer: **NTA LIFE INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Addison, TX  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.ntalife.com](http://www.ntalife.com)  
Telephone: (972) 532-2100

Insurer: **NY LIFE GROUP INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Philadelphia, PA  
Licensed In: AL, DC, MO, NY, PA, TN  
Website: [www.newyorklife.com](http://www.newyorklife.com)  
Telephone: (212) 576-7000

Insurer: **NY LIFE INS & ANNUITY CORP**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Telephone: (212) 576-7000

Insurer: **OHIO NATIONAL LIFE ASR CORP**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.ohionational.com](http://www.ohionational.com)  
Telephone: (513) 794-6100

Insurer: **PACIFIC GUARDIAN LIFE INS CO LTD**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Honolulu, HI  
Licensed In: All states except CT, FL, NJ, NY, PR  
Website: [www.pacificguardian.com](http://www.pacificguardian.com)  
Telephone: (808) 955-2236

Insurer: **PAN AMERICAN ASR CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New Orleans, LA  
Licensed In: All states except AK, IA, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, SD, VT, WY  
Website: [www.palig.com](http://www.palig.com)  
Telephone: (504) 566-1300



Insurer: **PARK AVENUE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except HI, NY, PR  
Website: [www.guardianlife.com](http://www.guardianlife.com)  
Telephone: (866) 766-6599

Insurer: **PENN MUTUAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Horsham, PA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.pennmutual.com](http://www.pennmutual.com)  
Telephone: (215) 956-8000

Insurer: **PHILADELPHIA AMERICAN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Houston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, RI, PR  
Website: <https://apps.neweralife.com>  
Telephone: (281) 368-7159

Insurer: **PLATEAU INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Crossville, TN  
Licensed In: All states except AK, HI, MA, NY, WY, PR  
Website: [www.800plateau.com](http://www.800plateau.com)  
Telephone: (931) 484-8411

Insurer: **POPULAR LIFE RE**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Guaynabo, PR  
Licensed In: No States  
Telephone: (787) 706-4111

Insurer: **PRIMERICA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Duluth, GA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.primerica.com](http://www.primerica.com)  
Telephone: (770) 381-1000

Insurer: **PRINCIPAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Des Moines, IA  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.principal.com](http://www.principal.com)  
Telephone: (515) 247-5111



Insurer: **PROVIDENT LIFE & CAS INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Chattanooga, TN  
Licensed In: All states except AL, AZ, CA, FL, IN, KS, ME, MD, MI, MN, MT, NV, OR, TX, UT, VT, WV, WI, WY, PR  
Website: [www.unum.com](http://www.unum.com)  
Telephone: (423) 294-1011

Insurer: **PRUDENTIAL INS CO OF AMERICA**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Newark, NJ  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.prudential.com](http://www.prudential.com)  
Telephone: (860) 534-8057

Insurer: **SB MUTL LIFE INS CO OF MA**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Woburn, MA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.sbli.com](http://www.sbli.com)  
Telephone: (781) 994-3500

Insurer: **SECURITY BENEFIT LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Topeka, KS  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.securitybenefit.com](http://www.securitybenefit.com)  
Telephone: (800) 888-2461

Insurer: **SENTRY LIFE INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Syracuse, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.sentry.com](http://www.sentry.com)  
Telephone: (315) 453-6301

Insurer: **SHELTER LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Columbia, MO  
Licensed In: AR, CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, NE, NV, OH, OK, TN  
Website: [www.shelterinsurance.com](http://www.shelterinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (573) 445-8441

Insurer: **SHELTERPOINT INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Garden City, NY  
Licensed In: All states except CA, MI, NY, PR  
Website: [www.shelterpoint.com](http://www.shelterpoint.com)  
Telephone: (516) 829-8100



- Insurer: **SOUTHERN NATL LIFE INS CO INC**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Baton Rouge, LA  
Licensed In: LA  
Website: [www.bcbsla.com](http://www.bcbsla.com)  
Telephone: (225) 295-3307
- Insurer: **STANDARD LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Galveston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except ME, NH, NJ, NY, PR  
Website: <https://slaico.americannational.com>  
Telephone: (409) 763-4661
- Insurer: **STANDARD SECURITY LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.sslicny.com](http://www.sslicny.com)  
Telephone: (212) 355-4141
- Insurer: **STATE LIFE INS FUND**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Madison, WI  
Licensed In: WI  
Website: [www.oci.wi.gov/SLIF](http://www.oci.wi.gov/SLIF)  
Telephone: (608) 266-0107
- Insurer: **STERLING LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Glenview, IL  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.cigna.com/medicare/shop-plans/supplemental/](http://www.cigna.com/medicare/shop-plans/supplemental/)  
Telephone: (512) 451-2224
- Insurer: **SWBC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Antonio, TX  
Licensed In: AL, GA, LA, MI, OK, TN, TX, UT, VA  
Website: [www.swbc.com](http://www.swbc.com)  
Telephone: (210) 321-7361
- Insurer: **THE UNION LABOR LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Silver Spring, MD  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.ullico.com](http://www.ullico.com)  
Telephone: (202) 682-0900



Insurer: **TIAA-CREF LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.tiaa.org](http://www.tiaa.org)  
Telephone: (212) 490-9000

Insurer: **TIER ONE INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Columbus, GA  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.aflac.com](http://www.aflac.com)  
Telephone: (706) 243-8708

Insurer: **TRANS OCEANIC LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Juan, PR  
Licensed In: FL, PR  
Website: <https://tolic.com>  
Telephone: (787) 620-2700

Insurer: **TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Harrison, NY  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.transamerica.com](http://www.transamerica.com)  
Telephone: (914) 627-3630

Insurer: **TRANSAMERICA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cedar Rapids, IA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.transamerica.com](http://www.transamerica.com)  
Telephone: (319) 355-8511

Insurer: **TRUSTMARK INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lake Forest, IL  
Licensed In: All states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico  
Website: [www.trustmarkcompanies.com](http://www.trustmarkcompanies.com)  
Telephone: (847) 615-1500

Insurer: **TRUSTMARK LIFE INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Lake Forest, IL  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.trustmarkcompanies.com](http://www.trustmarkcompanies.com)  
Telephone: (847) 615-1500



Insurer: **UNIMERICA LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: DC, NY  
Website: [www.unitedhealthgroup.com](http://www.unitedhealthgroup.com)  
Telephone: (877) 832-7734

Insurer: **UNION SECURITY LIFE INS CO OF NY**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: New York, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Telephone: (315) 637-4232

Insurer: **UNITED AMERICAN INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Mckinney, TX  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.unitedamerican.com](http://www.unitedamerican.com)  
Telephone: (972) 529-5085

Insurer: **UNITED FARM FAMILY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Indianapolis, IN  
Licensed In: AZ, CA, IL, IN, IA, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NC, ND, OH, PA  
Website: [www.infarmbureau.com](http://www.infarmbureau.com)  
Telephone: (317) 692-7200

Insurer: **UNITED HERITAGE LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Meridian, ID  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.unitedheritagelife.com](http://www.unitedheritagelife.com)  
Telephone: (208) 493-6100

Insurer: **UNITED HOME LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Indianapolis, IN  
Licensed In: All states except AK, MA, NH, NY, PR  
Website: [www.unitedhomelife.com](http://www.unitedhomelife.com)  
Telephone: (800) 428-3001

Insurer: **UNITED OF OMAHA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Omaha, NE  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.mutualofomaha.com](http://www.mutualofomaha.com)  
Telephone: (402) 342-7600





- Insurer: **UNIVERSAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Guaynabo, PR  
Licensed In: PR  
Website: [www.universalpr.com](http://www.universalpr.com)  
Telephone: (787) 641-7171
- Insurer: **US FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Chicago, IL  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.heritageli.com/usfli](http://www.heritageli.com/usfli)  
Telephone: (312) 220-0655
- Insurer: **USAA LIFE INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: San Antonio, TX  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com)  
Telephone: (210) 531-8722
- Insurer: **USABLE LIFE**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Little Rock, AR  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.usablelife.com](http://www.usablelife.com)  
Telephone: (501) 375-7200
- Insurer: **UTIC INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Birmingham, AL  
Licensed In: AL, PA, TN  
Website: [www.bluerxalatenn.com](http://www.bluerxalatenn.com)  
Telephone: (205) 220-2100
- Insurer: **VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Houston, TX  
Licensed In: All states except PR  
Website: [www.corebridgefinancial.com/legal-notice](http://www.corebridgefinancial.com/legal-notice)  
Telephone: (800) 448-2542
- Insurer: **WESTERN & SOUTHERN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: All states except AK, ME, MA, NY, PR  
Website: [www.westernsouthern.com/wslife](http://www.westernsouthern.com/wslife)  
Telephone: (513) 629-1800



Insurer: **WESTERN-SOUTHERN LIFE ASR CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Cincinnati, OH  
Licensed In: All states except NY, PR  
Website: [www.westernsouthern.com/wslife](http://www.westernsouthern.com/wslife)  
Telephone: (513) 629-1800

Insurer: **WYSH L&H INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: B  
Headquarters: Milwaukee, WI  
Licensed In: All states except AL, CA, CT, ME, MS, NJ, NY, RI, WA, PR  
Website: [www.wyshbox.com](http://www.wyshbox.com)  
Telephone: (414) 209-1984



# Weiss Ratings' Weakest Life Insurance Providers

The following pages list Weiss Ratings' Weakest Life Insurance Providers (based strictly on financial safety). These insurers currently receive a Weiss Safety Rating of E+, E or E-, indicating their very weak financial position.

These companies currently demonstrate what we consider to be significant weaknesses and have also failed some of the basic tests that we use to identify fiscal stability. Therefore, even in a favorable economic environment, it is our opinion that policyholders could incur significant risks.

Companies are listed by their Safety Rating and then alphabetically within each Safety Rating grouping.

To get Weiss Safety Rating for a company not included here, go to <https://greyhouse.weissratings.com>.

<b>Insurer Name</b>	The insurance company's legally registered name, which can sometimes differ from the name that the company uses for advertising. An insurer's name can be very similar to the name of other companies which may not be on this list, so make sure you note the exact name before contacting your agent.
<b>Weiss Safety Rating</b>	Our rating is measured on a scale from A to F and considers a wide range of factors. Highly rated companies are, in our opinion, less likely to experience financial difficulties than lower-rated firms. See "What Our Ratings Mean" in the Appendix for a definition of each rating category.
<b>City &amp; State</b>	The city in which the company's corporate office is located and the state in which the company's corporate office is located.
<b>Licensed In</b>	The states in which an insurer is licensed to conduct business.
<b>Website</b>	The company's web address
<b>Telephone</b>	The telephone number to call for information on purchasing an insurance policy from the company.

The following list of Weakest Life Insurance Providers is based on ratings as of the date of publication, March 29, 2024. Visit <https://greyhouse.weissratings.com> to see the latest ratings.



## E- Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **JACKSON GRIFFIN INS CO**  
Rating: E-  
Headquarters: Newport, AR  
Licensed In: AR  
Telephone: (870) 523-5822

Insurer: **LIFECARE ASSURANCE CO**  
Rating: E-  
Headquarters: Woodland Hills, CA  
Licensed In: All states except CT, FL, MN, NH, NY, RI, SC, WY, PR  
Website: [www.lifecareassurance.com](http://www.lifecareassurance.com)  
Telephone: (818) 887-4436

## E Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **CROWN GLOBAL INS CO OF AMERICA**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Wilmington, DE  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.crownglobalinsurance.com](http://www.crownglobalinsurance.com)  
Telephone: (302) 357-9349

Insurer: **INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Brownwood, TX  
Licensed In: TX  
Telephone: (800) 721-7778

Insurer: **INVESTORS PREFERRED LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Sioux Falls, SD  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.investorspreferred.com](http://www.investorspreferred.com)  
Telephone: (480) 530-0950

Insurer: **LOMBARD INTL LIFE ASR CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Philadelphia, PA  
Licensed In: All states except NH, NY, PR  
Website: [www.lombardinternational.com](http://www.lombardinternational.com)  
Telephone: (484) 530-4800



Insurer: **POLISH NATIONAL UNION OF AM**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Scranton, PA  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.pnu.org](http://www.pnu.org)  
Telephone: (570) 344-1513

Insurer: **SMITH BURIAL & LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Stamps, AR  
Licensed In: No States  
Telephone: (870) 533-2070

Insurer: **TEXAS REPUB LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Austin, TX  
Licensed In: TX  
Website: [www.texasrepubliclife.com](http://www.texasrepubliclife.com)  
Telephone: (512) 330-0099

Insurer: **US ALLIANCE LIFE & SECURITY CO**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Topeka, KS  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.usalliancelife.com](http://www.usalliancelife.com)  
Telephone: (785) 228-0200

Insurer: **WILLIAMS PROGRESSIVE LIFE & ACC I C**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Opelousas, LA  
Licensed In: LA  
Telephone: (337) 948-8238

Insurer: **WORKMENS BENEFIT FUND**  
Rating: E  
Headquarters: Farmingdale, NY  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.wbfusa.org](http://www.wbfusa.org)  
Telephone: (516) 938-6060



## E+ Rated Life Insurers

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Insurer: **CL LIFE AND ANNUITY INS CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Winston-Salem, NC  
Licensed In: AZ, GA, LA, OH, OK, TX, UT, VA  
Website: [www.clife.com](http://www.clife.com)  
Telephone: (817) 339-7600

Insurer: **DAKOTA CAPITAL LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Bismarck, ND  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.dakotacapitallife.com](http://www.dakotacapitallife.com)  
Telephone: (701) 258-1499

Insurer: **DELTA LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Atlanta, GA  
Licensed In: GA, MS, SC  
Website: [www.delta-life.com](http://www.delta-life.com)  
Telephone: (404) 231-2111

Insurer: **DIRECTORS LIFE ASR CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Oklahoma City, OK  
Licensed In: AR, KS, OK, TX  
Website: [www.directorslife.tv](http://www.directorslife.tv)  
Telephone: (405) 842-1234

Insurer: **LIVE OAK INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Lake Charles, LA  
Licensed In: LA  
Telephone: (337) 478-8687

Insurer: **MEDAMERICA INS CO OF NEW YORK**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Rochester, NY  
Licensed In: NY  
Website: [www.medamericaltc.com](http://www.medamericaltc.com)  
Telephone: (585) 238-4351

Insurer: **MUTUAL BENEFICIAL ASSN INC**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Berwyn, PA  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.mutualbeneficial.com](http://www.mutualbeneficial.com)  
Telephone: (610) 722-0253



Insurer: **ORDER OF UNITED COMM TRAVELERS**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Columbus, OH  
Licensed In: All states except AK, HI, ME, NM, WA, PR  
Website: [www.uct.org](http://www.uct.org)  
Telephone: (614) 487-9680

Insurer: **PHL VARIABLE INS CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Hartford, CT  
Licensed In: All states except ME, NY  
Website: <https://phlvariable.com>  
Telephone: (860) 403-5000

Insurer: **REVOL ONE INSURANCE CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Durham, NC  
Licensed In:  
Telephone: (517) 507-3934

Insurer: **SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Pittsburgh, PA  
Licensed In:  
Website: [www.snflife.org](http://www.snflife.org)  
Telephone: (412) 458-5227

Insurer: **SUN LIFE ASR CO CANADA**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Wellesley Hills, MA  
Licensed In: All states except NY  
Website: [www.sunlife.com/us](http://www.sunlife.com/us)  
Telephone: (781) 446-1514

Insurer: **UPSTREAM LIFE INS CO**  
Rating: E+  
Headquarters: Oxford, MS  
Licensed In: AZ, AR, CO, DC, DE, ID, IL, IN, LA, MD, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV,  
NM, ND, OH, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY  
Website: [www.upstreamlife.us](http://www.upstreamlife.us)  
Telephone: (877) 543-3504







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# Helpful Resources

Contact any of the following organizations for further information about purchasing health insurance.

- **Your state department of insurance** - See next page for specific contacts
- **National Association of Insurance Commissioners** - [www.naic.org](http://www.naic.org)
- **Insurance Information Institute** - [www.iii.org](http://www.iii.org)
- **Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America** - [www.independentagent.com/default.aspx](http://www.independentagent.com/default.aspx)
- **Weiss Ratings, LLC** provides financial strength ratings for health insurance plans nationwide: [www.weissratings.com](http://www.weissratings.com)
- **United States Department of Labor**  
Telephone: 1-866-4-USA-DOL [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov)



## State Insurance Commissioners' Departmental Contact Information

State	Official's Title	Website Address	Phone
Alabama	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.aldoi.gov">www.aldoi.gov</a>	(334) 269-3550
Alaska	Director	<a href="https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/ins/">https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/ins/</a>	(907) 269-7900
Arizona	Director	<a href="https://insurance.az.gov/">https://insurance.az.gov/</a>	(602) 364-3100
Arkansas	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.insurance.arkansas.gov">www.insurance.arkansas.gov</a>	(501) 371-2600
California	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.insurance.ca.gov">www.insurance.ca.gov</a>	(916) 492-3500
Colorado	Commissioner	<a href="https://dora.colorado.gov/">https://dora.colorado.gov/</a>	(303) 894-7499
Connecticut	Commissioner	<a href="https://portal.ct.gov/cid">https://portal.ct.gov/cid</a>	(860) 297-3800
Delaware	Commissioner	<a href="https://insurance.delaware.gov/">https://insurance.delaware.gov/</a>	(302) 674-7300
Dist. of Columbia	Commissioner	<a href="http://disb.dc.gov/">http://disb.dc.gov/</a>	(202) 727-8000
Florida	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.floir.com/">www.floir.com/</a>	(850) 413-3140
Georgia	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.oci.ga.gov/">www.oci.ga.gov/</a>	(404) 656-2070
Hawaii	Commissioner	<a href="http://cca.hawaii.gov/ins/">http://cca.hawaii.gov/ins/</a>	(808) 586-2790
Idaho	Director	<a href="http://www.doi.idaho.gov">www.doi.idaho.gov</a>	(208) 334-4250
Illinois	Director	<a href="http://www.illinois.gov/">www.illinois.gov/</a>	(217) 558-2757
Indiana	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.in.gov/idoi/">www.in.gov/idoi/</a>	(317) 232-2385
Iowa	Commissioner	<a href="https://iid.iowa.gov/">https://iid.iowa.gov/</a>	(515) 654-6600
Kansas	Commissioner	<a href="https://insurance.kansas.gov/">https://insurance.kansas.gov/</a>	(785) 296-3071
Kentucky	Commissioner	<a href="https://insurance.ky.gov/ppc/new_default.aspx">https://insurance.ky.gov/ppc/new_default.aspx</a>	(502) 564-3630
Louisiana	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.lidi.la.gov/">www.lidi.la.gov/</a>	(225) 342-5900
Maine	Superintendent	<a href="http://www.maine.gov/pfr/insurance/">www.maine.gov/pfr/insurance/</a>	(207) 624-8475
Maryland	Commissioner	<a href="http://insurance.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx">http://insurance.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx</a>	(410) 468-2000
Massachusetts	Commissioner	<a href="https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-insurance">https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-insurance</a>	(617) 521-7794
Michigan	Director	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/difs">http://www.michigan.gov/difs</a>	(517) 284-8800
Minnesota	Commissioner	<a href="http://mn.gov/commerce/">http://mn.gov/commerce/</a>	(651) 539-1500
Mississippi	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.mid.ms.gov/">http://www.mid.ms.gov/</a>	(601) 359-3569
Missouri	Director	<a href="http://www.insurance.mo.gov">www.insurance.mo.gov</a>	(573) 751-4126



State	Official's Title	Website Address	Phone
Montana	Commissioner	<a href="http://csimt.gov/">http://csimt.gov/</a>	(406) 444-2040
Nebraska	Director	<a href="http://www.doi.nebraska.gov/">www.doi.nebraska.gov/</a>	(402) 471-2201
Nevada	Commissioner	<a href="https://doi.nv.gov/">https://doi.nv.gov/</a>	(775) 687-0700
New Hampshire	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.nh.gov/insurance/">www.nh.gov/insurance/</a>	(603) 271-2261
New Jersey	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/">www.state.nj.us/dobi/</a>	(609) 292-7272
New Mexico	Superintendent	<a href="http://www.osi.state.nm.us/">www.osi.state.nm.us/</a>	(505) 827-4601
New York	Superintendent	<a href="http://www.dfs.ny.gov/">www.dfs.ny.gov/</a>	(212) 709-3500
North Carolina	Commissioner	<a href="https://www.ncdoi.gov/">https://www.ncdoi.gov/</a>	(919) 807-6000
North Dakota	Commissioner	<a href="https://www.insurance.nd.gov/">https://www.insurance.nd.gov/</a>	(701) 328-2440
Ohio	Director	<a href="http://www.insurance.ohio.gov">www.insurance.ohio.gov</a>	(614) 644-2658
Oklahoma	Commissioner	<a href="https://www.oid.ok.gov/">https://www.oid.ok.gov/</a>	(405) 521-2828
Oregon	Insurance Commissioner	<a href="http://dfr.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://dfr.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a>	(503) 947-7980
Pennsylvania	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.insurance.pa.gov/">www.insurance.pa.gov/</a>	(717) 787-7000
Puerto Rico	Commissioner	<a href="https://ocs.pr.gov/English/Pages/default.aspx">https://ocs.pr.gov/English/Pages/default.aspx</a>	(787) 304-8686
Rhode Island	Superintendent	<a href="https://dbr.ri.gov/contact/">https://dbr.ri.gov/contact/</a>	(401) 462-9500
South Carolina	Director	<a href="http://www.doi.sc.gov">www.doi.sc.gov</a>	(803) 737-6160
South Dakota	Director	<a href="http://dlr.sd.gov/insurance/default.aspx">http://dlr.sd.gov/insurance/default.aspx</a>	(605) 773-3563
Tennessee	Commissioner	<a href="http://tn.gov/commerce/">http://tn.gov/commerce/</a>	(615) 741-2241
Texas	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.tdi.texas.gov/">www.tdi.texas.gov/</a>	(512) 676-6000
Utah	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.insurance.utah.gov">www.insurance.utah.gov</a>	(801) 957-9200
Vermont	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.dfr.vermont.gov/">www.dfr.vermont.gov/</a>	(802) 828-3301
Virgin Islands	Lieutenant Governor	<a href="https://ltg.gov.vi/">https://ltg.gov.vi/</a>	(340) 774-7166
Virginia	Commissioner	<a href="https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Home">https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Home</a>	(804) 371-9741
Washington	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.insurance.wa.gov">www.insurance.wa.gov</a>	(360) 725-7000
West Virginia	Commissioner	<a href="http://www.wvinsurance.gov">www.wvinsurance.gov</a>	(304) 558-3354
Wisconsin	Commissioner	<a href="https://oci.wi.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx">https://oci.wi.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx</a>	(608) 266-3586
Wyoming	Commissioner	<a href="http://doi.wyo.gov/">http://doi.wyo.gov/</a>	(307) 777-7401



# Glossary

<b>Adjustable Life Insurance:</b>	A kind of policy that offers flexibility in modifying the benefit, premium, or savings component.
<b>Beneficiary:</b>	In life insurance, the person selected by the insured to receive the death benefit.
<b>Benefit:</b>	Money paid out by the insurance company.
<b>Cash Value:</b>	In permanent life insurance, cash value refers to a component of the plan that works like a tax-deferred savings account. Otherwise, the cash value is the amount of money that the life insurance policy owner would receive as a refund if the policy owner decided to cancel the policy. In this second sense, also called "cash surrender value."
<b>Convertible Term Life Insurance:</b>	A term life insurance policy that is written to allow conversion into a permanent life insurance policy in the future.
<b>Death Benefit:</b>	The amount of money that the insured person's beneficiaries will receive from the insurer when the person dies.
<b>Decreasing Term Life Insurance:</b>	A type of term life insurance in which the death benefit decreases at a pre-determined rate across the duration of the policy.
<b>Elimination Period:</b>	In disability insurance policies, this is the period before the policy starts paying the benefit.
<b>Exclusion:</b>	A condition in an insurance policy under which the benefit will not be paid.



<b>Level Term Life Insurance:</b>	A type of term life insurance in which the premium remains the same for the duration of the policy.
<b>Long-Term Disability Insurance:</b>	Disability insurance that pays benefits for longer periods than short-term disability insurance, up to retirement.
<b>Own Occupation Coverage:</b>	A kind of disability insurance that covers the insured whenever they are unable to perform the work required for their occupation.
<b>Permanent Life Insurance:</b>	Life insurance in force for the insured person's entire life and that pays a benefit whenever that person dies. Sometimes called "whole life."
<b>Premium Payment:</b>	The amount paid for an insurance policy, usually a monthly payment.
<b>Short-Term Disability Insurance:</b>	Disability insurance that pays benefits for, typically, no more than six months.
<b>Social Security Disability Insurance: (SSDI)</b>	A federal disability insurance program for U.S. workers managed by the Social Security Administration and funded through a payroll tax.
<b>Straight Life:</b>	Another term for Whole Life.
<b>Term Life Insurance:</b>	Life insurance payable only if the death of the insured occurs within a specified time called the "term" of the policy, such as 5 or 10 years.
<b>Universal Life Insurance:</b>	An adjustable life insurance in which premiums and coverage are adjustable, and money or especially interest earned in the savings component is used to pay premiums.



<b>Whole Life Insurance:</b>	Life insurance in force for the insured person's entire life and that pays a benefit whenever that person dies. Also called "permanent life insurance."
<b>Workers' Compensation:</b>	A state-run system of short-term insurance that provides for the continued payment of salaries to employees when they have been injured or made ill in the course of employment.
<b>Voluntary Benefit:</b>	Employment benefits that are offered by the employer although the employer doesn't contribute to the cost.
<b>Yearly Renewable Term:</b>	(YRT) A type of term life insurance that is renewed each year.



# Weiss Ratings: What Our Ratings Mean

- A Excellent.** The company offers excellent financial security. It has maintained a conservative stance in its investment strategies, business operations and underwriting commitments. While the financial position of any company is subject to change, we believe that this company has the resources necessary to deal with severe economic conditions.
- B Good.** The company offers good financial security and has the resources to deal with a variety of adverse economic conditions. It comfortably exceeds the minimum levels for all of our rating criteria, and is likely to remain healthy for the near future. However, in the event of a severe recession or major financial crisis, we feel that this assessment should be reviewed to make sure that the firm is still maintaining adequate financial strength.
- C Fair.** The company offers fair financial security and is currently stable. But during an economic downturn or other financial pressures, we feel it may encounter difficulties in maintaining its financial stability.
- D Weak.** The company currently demonstrates what, in our opinion, we consider to be significant weaknesses which could negatively impact policyholders. In an unfavorable economic environment, these weaknesses could be magnified.
- E Very Weak.** The company currently demonstrates what we consider to be significant weaknesses and has also failed some of the basic tests that we use to identify fiscal stability. Therefore, even in a favorable economic environment, it is our opinion that policyholders could incur significant risks.
- F Failed.** The company is deemed failed if it is either 1) under supervision of an insurance regulatory authority; 2) in the process of rehabilitation; 3) in the process of liquidation; or 4) voluntarily dissolve after disciplinary or other regulatory action by an insurance regulatory authority.
- +** The plus sign is an indication that the company is in the upper third of the letter grade.
- The minus sign is an indication that the company is in the lower third of the letter grade.
- U** Unrated. The company is unrated for one or more of the following reasons: (1) total assets are less than \$1 million; (2) premium income for the current year was less than \$100,000; or (3) the company functions almost exclusively as a holding company rather than as an underwriter; or, (4) in our opinion, we do not have enough information to reliably issue a rating.





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