# disability insurance

Group Voluntary Short-Term Disability (STD) Insurance

If you become injured or disabled, you could lose one of your most important assets—your paycheck. Group Voluntary Short-Term Disability Insurance helps you prepare for the unexpected with flexible, affordable income protection. No one likes to think a disability will ever happen. But consider this: on the average, there are 13 unintentional-injury deaths and about 2,650 disabling injuries every hour during the year.<sup>1</sup>

If it happens, you can't always rely on Social Security. In 2004, the average monthly Social Security benefit was \$894.10.2 If you became disabled, would you be financially prepared?

With this coverage, you may:

- Have enough money to cover bills
- Support your family
- Protect your hard-earned savings
- 1. Injury Facts, National Safety Council, 2005-2006.
- 2. Annual Statistical Report on the Social Security Program, Social Security Administration, 2006.



# why it makes sense

Your income takes a lot of worry out of ordinary living. With it, you cover bills, pay for your home and provide for your family. But what if one day you got sick or injured and couldn't work? How long could you afford life without a paycheck?

If you are like the rest of us, you probably don't have much cushion for the unexpected. That's why you're being offered this chance to enroll in the group disability income insurance plan sponsored by your employer. It helps you make ends meet if you become disabled due to a covered off-the-job accident or sickness and can't earn your regular paycheck.<sup>3</sup> This can help you and your family live life as usual until you're back at work.

# Disability Income Insurance Might Be Right For You If:

- A few weeks out of work would make it hard to keep up with bills like mortgage/rent, car payments, utilities and credit card payments
- Your savings is small or earmarked for other goals
- You can't afford the extra costs of a disability—like deductibles, medicine, in-home care or extra help around the house
- Your family and friends can't pitch in what you need—especially over an extended period of time
- You've got other coverage, but it won't cover all of your expenses

### What You Get

Short-Term Disability insurance from Allstate Workplace Division gives you a source of income when you can't work because of a covered sickness or off-the-job injury. Some of the benefits of this plan are:

- You select a benefit amount in \$100 increments from a monthly benefit of \$400 up to \$2,500 or 60% of your earnings, whichever is less.
- You have the option, if your employment ends, to continue your same group coverage at the current group rates for up to 24 months, if you have been insured under this plan for 12 consecutive months, you are not disabled, not on a leave of absence, not retired and not covered under any other group disability plan at the time your employment terminates.
- Convenient payroll deduction.
- A fast and easy enrollment process.
- Maternity covered as any other sickness.

This program provides Group Voluntary Short-Term Disability Insurance for you. It allows you to select the amount of coverage that meets your needs.

# **How Benefits Are Paid**

While you're totally disabled, you get your monthly benefit amount after the elimination period has been satisfied. The elimination period may be different for disabilities resulting from sickness and disabilities resulting from an off-the-job accidental injury. Benefits continue while you're totally disabled up to the length of your benefit period.

After you begin receiving total disability benefits, if you are partially disabled due to the same sickness or injury and earnings are from 20-80% of pre-disability earnings, you may receive payments based on the percentage of income you are losing due to disability.

After monthly benefits are payable for 90 days in a row, we'll waive future premiums as they become due for as long as monthly benefits are payable.

For any disability period, you may collect a partial disability benefit or a total disability benefit, but not both. If you're disabled from the same or related cause within 14 days of recovery, it is considered the same disability; you will not be required to satisfy a new elimination period.

#### **Exclusions & Limitations**

We do not pay benefits for a disability caused by, or resulting from (directly or indirectly) your:

- loss of professional license, occupational license, or certificate; or
- participation in a felony; or
- intentionally self-inflicted injuries; or
- active participation in a riot; or
- commission of a crime for which you have been convicted under state or federal law; or
- pre-existing condition; or
- occupational sickness or injury (except the occupational sickness or injury of a covered partner or sole proprietor who cannot be covered by Worker's Compensation law will be covered).

The plan will not cover disability due to war, declared or undeclared, or any act of war. Allstate Workplace Division will not pay a benefit for any period of disability in which you are incarcerated.

#### **Benefit Offsets**

Monthly benefits are reduced by the deductible sources of income listed in your certificate, including, but not limited to: worker's compensation, state compulsory disability income benefits, other group insurance plans, automobile liability insurance and payments from certain retirement plans. Any others will be listed in your certificate.

#### **Enrollment**

You may enroll during your initial enrollment period, or during a re-enrollment period. Your initial enrollment period is that 31 day period beginning on your eligibility date. The re-enrollment period is the annual period of time of at least one month, which is set by your employer and AWD during which you may apply, in writing, for coverage under this plan (or change your coverage under this plan if you are currently enrolled). Your certificate/booklet will tell you when the re-enrollment period is for your group.

## **Evidence of Insurability**

The enrollment form has no health questions. However, if you do not enroll within 31 days after your eligibility date, you may later enroll only during a re-enrollment period, and you must provide evidence of insurability. You will also have to provide evidence of insurability if you want to increase your benefit during a re-enrollment period. To do this, you must complete an Evidence of Insurability form, answering health questions. AWD may ask you to submit a doctor's statement, provided at your expense. No coverage will become effective until AWD approves your evidence of insurability, and AWD will have the right to deny the coverage, based on your health history.

#### **Definitions**

#### Elimination Period

The consecutive days of total disability that must pass before benefits start; this period can't be met if you're only partially disabled.

# Pre-existing Condition

A pre-existing condition is any condition for which you received medical treatment, consultation, care, or services, including diagnostic measures, or for which you've taken prescribed drugs or medicines in the 12 months just prior to your effective date of coverage. We will not pay for disability that begins within 12 months of your effective date of coverage, if caused by a pre-existing condition.

# Total Disability

When, because of sickness or an off-the-job injury, you can't perform the material and substantial duties of your regular occupation and you are not working in any occupation.

Plan	
Name:	
Elimination Period	d:
	_ days for accidental injury
	_ days for sickness
Benefit Period:	
	_ months
Monthly Benefit:	
	_ each month
Total Premium:	

#### Allstate at Work®

Allstate Workplace Division offers employees insurance products that protect their financial security and well-being. After all, it's always been Allstate's business to protect families and their assets. Millions of Americans have been trusting us for more than 75 years. And it's not just because we're one of the nation's largest insurance companies. Or that we get excellent ratings from independent agencies like Standard & Poor's, Moody's and A.M. Best. It's because we take the time to understand our customers' concerns and advise them on what's best for them. To us, relationships with our customers are our biggest asset.



**Rev. 10/06.** Benefits are provided by Group Voluntary Disability income policy GVD-4000, or state variations thereof. This brochure highlights some features of the policy but is not the insurance contract. Only the actual policy provisions control. The policy itself sets forth, in detail, the rights and obligations of both the insured and the insurance company.

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