



# Frequently Asked Questions About Disability Insurance

## **Who needs disability insurance?**

Everyone with a job. Your ability to earn an income is your most valuable asset. If you become injured or sick and unable to work, you need to make sure that you will have enough money to make ends meet until you're able to return to work.

## **Will a disability insurance policy replace all of my lost income?**

No. Disability insurance is designed to help you meet your current financial obligations while you are recovering from an injury or illness. Typical individual policies pay between 40 and 60 percent of your pre-disability gross salary. Companies won't replace 100% of your income during a disability because that could create a disincentive for you to return to work.

## **Do I have to get hurt on the job to qualify for disability insurance?**

No. Disability insurance is not worker's compensation. Disability insurance is a separate type of coverage that you can purchase on your own or sometimes through your employer. An individually owned disability insurance policy will always be your most flexible and reliable source of coverage because it provides you with financial protection no matter where an illness is contracted or where a disabling injury takes place.

## **What should I do if I think I need disability insurance?**

Start by finding a qualified insurance professional. Ask your friends, family or other trusted advisors for a recommendation, or visit [www.life-line.org/agentlocator](http://www.life-line.org/agentlocator) where a search function will help you find advisors in your area. An insurance professional will help you evaluate your current financial obligations and determine what amount and type of insurance will allow you to meet those obligations if you get injured or sick and cannot work.

## **How much disability insurance do I need?**

The best way to determine how much disability insurance you need to protect you and your loved ones is to meet with a qualified insurance professional, who can help you conduct a detailed needs analysis. But for a general sense of your need for disability insurance, check out the nonprofit LIFE Foundation's Needs Calculator at [www.life-line.org/disabilitycalculator](http://www.life-line.org/disabilitycalculator).

## **What should I consider when shopping for disability insurance?**

There are many different options to select when shopping for disability insurance such as the benefit amount, the benefit period, the definition of disability, the elimination period, etc. A qualified insurance professional can help you navigate all of the decisions, but you can also visit [www.life-line.org/disability](http://www.life-line.org/disability) to learn more about these and other important policy features and considerations.

