

SUMMARY OF THE 1996 NEW HAMPSHIRE LIFE AND HEALTH
INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT (RSA 408-B)
AND
NOTICE CONCERNING COVERAGE LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

Residents of New Hampshire who purchase life insurance, health insurance, and annuities should know that the insurance companies licensed in New Hampshire to write these types of insurance are members of the New Hampshire Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association. The purpose of this Association is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer becomes financially unable to meet its policy obligations. If this should happen, the Association will assess its other member insurance companies for the money to pay the covered claims of policyholders who live in New Hampshire and, in some cases, to keep coverage in force. This protection is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting companies that are well managed and financially stable. The valuable extra protection provided by these insurers through the Guaranty Association is not unlimited, however, as noted below.

IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

The New Hampshire Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association may not provide coverage for this policy. If coverage is provided, it may be subject to substantial limitations or exclusions, and require continued residency in New Hampshire. Other conditions may preclude coverage.

Coverage is NOT provided for your policy or any portion of it that is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which you have assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus.

Insurance companies or their agents are required by law to give or send you this notice. **However, insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the Association to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy.**

This information is provided by:

New Hampshire Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association
10 Chestnut Drive, Unit B
Bedford, NH 03110
(603) 472-3734

New Hampshire Department of Insurance
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 271-2261

SUMMARY:

The 1996 state law that provides for this safety-net coverage is called the New Hampshire Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act. Below is a brief summary of this law's coverage, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law and it does not in any way change one's rights or obligations under the Act or the rights or obligations of the Association.

COVERAGE:

Generally, individuals will be protected by the New Hampshire Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association if they live in this state and hold a life or health insurance policy or an annuity contract, or if they are insured under a group insurance contract, issued by a member insurer. The beneficiaries, assignees or payees of insured persons are protected as well, even if they live in another state.

Coverage provided under the current, amended Act may be different from coverage provided prior to 1996, as coverage is determined by the governing Act in effect on the date that the Association becomes obligated.

EXCLUSIONS FROM COVERAGE:

Persons holding such policies or contracts are NOT protected by this Association if:

- they are not residents of the state of New Hampshire, except under certain very specific circumstances;
- they are eligible for protection under the laws of another state; or
- their policy was issued by a nonprofit hospital or medical service organization, an HMO, a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company or any entity that operates on an assessment basis, an insurance exchange, or any entity similar to any of the above.

The Association also does NOT provide coverage for:

- any policy or portion of a policy or contract not guaranteed by the insurer or under which the risk is borne by the policy holder or contract holder;
- any policy or contract of reinsurance, unless assumption certificates have been issued;
- interest rate guarantees that exceed certain statutory limitations;
- any plan or program of an employer, association, or similar entity to provide life, health, or annuity benefits to its employees or members to the extent that the plan or program is self-funded or uninsured, including, but not limited to, benefits payable by an employer, association, or similar entity;
- dividends, experience rating credits, or fees for services in connection with an insurance policy;
- any policy or contract issued in this state by an insurer at a time when it was not licensed or authorized to do business in New Hampshire;

- any unallocated annuity contract issued to an employee benefit plan protected under the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation;
- any portion of any unallocated annuity contract which is not issued to or in connection with a specific employee, union, or association of natural persons benefit plan or a government lottery; or
- any portion of a policy or contract to the extent that the required assessments are preempted by federal or state law.
- a portion of a policy or contract to the extent it provides for interest or other changes in value to be determined by the use of an index or other external reference stated in the policy or contract, but which have not been credited to the policy or contract, or as to which the policy or contract owner's rights are subject to forfeiture, as of the date of the member insurer becomes an impaired or insolvent insurer under this chapter, whichever is earlier.
- a policy or contract providing any hospital, medical, prescription drug or other health care benefits pursuant to Part C or Part D of subchapter XVIII, chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, commonly known as Medicare Part C and D, or any regulations issued pursuant thereto.

LIMITS ON AMOUNT OF COVERAGE:

The Act also limits the amount the Association is obligated to pay. The Association cannot pay more than what the insurance company would owe under a policy or contract.

With respect to any one life, the Association will pay a maximum of \$300,000 no matter how many policies and contracts there were with the same company, even if they provided different types of coverages, except with respect to benefits for basic hospital, medical and surgical insurance and major medical insurance in which case the aggregate liability of the Association shall not exceed \$500,000 with respect to any one individual. For life insurance benefits the Association will not pay more than \$300,000 in life insurance death benefits and will not pay more than \$100,000 in net cash surrender or withdrawal values. For health insurance benefits the Association will not pay more than \$100,000 in health insurance benefits not defined as disability insurance or basic hospital, medical and surgical insurance or long-term care insurance, \$300,000 in disability coverage, \$300,000 in long-term care benefits, and \$500,000 for basic hospital medical and surgical insurance or major medical insurance. For annuity benefits the Association will not pay more than \$250,000 in present value of annuity benefits, including net cash surrender or withdrawal values. .

The limit of coverage to one owner of multiple non-group policies of life insurance is \$5,000,000.

With respect to any one contract holder of an unallocated annuity contract, not including a governmental retirement plan established under Section 401, 403(b) or 457 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, the Association will pay a maximum of \$5,000,000 in benefits, irrespective of the number of such contracts held by that contract holder.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Policyholders should contact the New Hampshire Insurance Department with questions they may have with regard to concerns about their rights under the Act and procedures for filing a complaint to allege a violation of the Act.

Policyholders may contact the New Hampshire Insurance Department for sources of information about the financial condition of insurers.

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