

overview: *disability insurance*

What will happen to you, your family, your assets — or your business — if you are unable to work? How can a business control costs when a key employee is unable to produce? Disability insurance can provide some protection.

the personal view

what/benefits	✔ Provides a replacement of income in the event of illness or injury: ▶ The ability to earn an income is the most important asset that a person has ▶ Disability Insurance protects your income earning capabilities, and guarantees an ongoing source of income so you can continue to live comfortably ▶ Disability/medical issues are still the #1 source of bankruptcy
	✔ Anyone who is employed
	✔ Business owners, professionals and self-employed individuals especially need this protection
who/how	✔ Those who have coverage through their employers should also review their group plans carefully: ▶ Amount of benefits ▶ Length of time benefits will be paid ▶ Under what terms benefits will be paid
	✔ The younger the better (premiums go up significantly as you age)
	✔ As soon as you have your first job, look into a policy
when	✔ Medical and dental students can purchase disability insurance while they are in residency

the business view

what/benefits	✔ Provides a continuation of income in the event of an illness or injury: ▶ For business owners ▶ For employees
	✔ Transfers responsibility of salary continuation for a non-productive employee from the business to a third party: an insurance company
	✔ Helps employers define a uniform sick leave/disability policy for employees, reducing the risk of lawsuits
who/how	✔ Can fund purchase of a partner's shares in the event of disability (disability buy-out)
	✔ Provides funds to pay off loans while a key employee or owner is unable to work (through disability loan guarantee)
	✔ Pays ongoing business expenses for a period of time while a key employee is unable to work (through business overhead rider)
when	✔ All business owners and employees: ▶ Key employees may be "carved out" for additional benefits ▶ Particularly important for professionals and business owners
	✔ High income earners (such as entertainers, musicians and other specialty occupations) can be protected by specialty programs
	✔ Ages 18 to 60

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