



Optional Life Insurance

Looking after your
family's future

Life insurance helps protect your family from financial losses that can happen with the loss of your life and income.

But there's a gap between the amount of life insurance many Canadians have and what their families may need.

Why Optional Life?

Life is always changing. Moments happen, like getting married, having a baby or buying a house. These life moments can mean taking on more financial risk.

Optional Life gives you simple access to the insurance coverage your family may need, any time. It's available through your group benefits plan to help you fill the gap.

With Optional Life from The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company ("Manulife"), you can get up to \$150,000 in coverage for yourself, and up to \$100,000 for your spouse, depending on the coverage maximum set by your plan.* There's no need to give medical details when you apply for this amount and no set sign-up period to wait for. Keep in mind, these limits include any amount of Optional Life Insurance you currently have, as well as any new amounts you want to add.

On your application, simply confirm the person the coverage is for is in good health. A 24-month pre-existing condition clause applies to any new coverage for you or your spouse.

More coverage may be available, depending on your plan. You will need to include medical details with your application for additional amounts.

What is a pre-existing condition?

A pre-existing condition is a health problem that began or existed during the 24 months before your Optional Life coverage starts. If you have a pre-existing health problem and die from that health problem in the first 24 months of coverage, the insurance won't pay a death benefit.

For example, suppose you've had diabetes for 10 years. If your death is diabetes-related, and it happens in the first 24 months of coverage, the death benefit won't be paid.

If your death is caused by a car accident, or by a diabetes-related condition four years after coverage starts, the death benefit will be paid to your beneficiary.

Benefits of Optional Life

Simple access

Get the insurance your family may need with no medical questions to answer (up to the limits), and no set sign-up period to wait for.

Ease of payment

Paying for your Optional Life Insurance is simple. The money comes off your pay. Then it's sent to Manulife on your behalf.

Potential savings

Optional Life is available through your group plan. Group coverage is typically less expensive to buy than individual coverage.

Waiver of premium

Your plan may include a waiver of premium provision. If it does and you meet the requirements, you won't need to keep paying your premiums to continue your coverage if you become disabled.

Protection is safeguarded

If you leave your job or your group benefits plan is cancelled, you may be able to easily switch your Optional Life group coverage to individual coverage. Your group coverage stays in effect for 31 days, without charge to you, while you decide if you want to switch.

* Coverage for children may also be available. Check your benefits booklet to find out if your plan offers this type of coverage.

If you already have Optional Life coverage through your plan that you had to provide medical details for, the pre-existing condition clause won't apply to that amount. For example:

Original coverage
\$40,000
Medical details needed
No pre-existing condition clause
Added coverage
+\$60,000
No medical details needed
24-month pre-existing condition clause is in effect

Applying is Easy

1. Decide how much insurance you want to buy.
2. Check the cost and any coverage maximums set for your plan.
3. Fill out and return the application.

Applications are available on your plan member site at manulife.ca/planmember.

Ask your plan administrator or Human Resources department for cost information.

Making a change

If you're applying for more coverage, you need to fill out a new application. You can apply for up to the maximum amount set for your plan.

To cancel or reduce your coverage, tell your plan administrator or Human Resources about the change in writing.

Choosing a beneficiary

It's important to name a beneficiary. All or part of any payment from your life insurance goes to them if you die.

If you already have coverage and want to change your beneficiary, contact your plan administrator or Human Resources department.

Will the information on my application be kept confidential?

Protecting your personal information and respecting your privacy is important to us. Find more information about our Privacy Policy at manulife.ca/planmember.

When does coverage start?

Coverage of up to \$150,000 for you and \$100,000 for your spouse will start as soon as we have your completed application.

For any coverage amounts above those limits, you'll need to provide medical details with your application. That extra coverage will start once your application is approved.

Before you apply...

Think about your income and all the things it pays for – mortgage / rent, loans, regular household expenses, education and other needs. Determine how long you may need replacement funds to last. Then, consider what coverage you have in place already – through your employer, individual insurance plans and creditors (e.g. your mortgage provider).

You can find information specific to your plan in your benefits booklet, including:

- **What coverage maximums are under your plan**
- **If your plan offers coverage for your spouse and children**
- **When Optional Life coverage ends**

It's available when you sign in to your plan member site at manulife.ca/planmember.

Do you have any questions?

If you need more information or have questions, give us a call at **1-800-268-6195**.



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