



## Disability Insurance for Military Physicians and Dentists

Thank you for your unheralded service. Our goal is to provide the same commitment to service that you provide to our nation.

From a disability insurance perspective, you are at a much higher risk of suffering from the financial consequences of a disability due to being under insured. This is because the U.S. Government uses a disability severity rating and dependent system to determine the monthly benefit payable. Each type of disability is given a rating based on severity (10% being least severe and 100% being most severe). The system also takes into account number of dependents. As of 12/1/16, the maximum monthly payable benefit ranges from as little as \$133.57 (assuming 10% disability rating and no dependents) to \$3,458.06 (assuming 100% disability rating with a spouse, two parents and child as dependents). When taking into account all components of pay (base/special/incentive/bonus pay, civilian pay, etc.), those disability benefits are far from adequate.

An example of this is illustrated here:

Base Pay	\$5,000/month
Incentive Pay and Bonus Pay	\$5,000/month
<b>Total Military Pay</b>	<b>\$10,000/month</b>
Civilian Pay	\$5,000/month
<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$15,000/month</b>
<b>Uninsured Compensation</b>	<b>\$11,542/month to \$14,866/month</b>

In the above example, depending on the severity of the disability and the number of dependents, at most the physician would only have 23% of income insured. Statistics indicate that disability protection should cover at least 50% of income.

We are able to provide a solution to the under insurance problem by designing plans with supplemental monthly benefits which will enhance the disability benefit protection. We also can design plans with a lump sum benefit if additional protection is desired.

As a military physician, you must also consider pre-emptively protecting yourself from the loss of your military disability coverage upon completion of service. By then, it may be more difficult for you to establish disability coverage because of injuries and/or disorders developed from your time in the service. The government will provide a percentage of disability benefits for such conditions but they will result in a private policy with exclusions or your coverage being declined entirely. That is why it is critical for you to establish coverage while young and healthy.

We recommend immediately establishing a non-cancelable and guaranteed renewable (meaning the insurance company cannot increase premiums, cancel coverage, or change any feature of the policy) disability insurance policy that protects you in your medical specialty for total or partial disability and guarantees you the ability to increase coverage in the future without medical qualification. Doing so protects you from the risk of not medically qualifying for additional coverage after completion of service. It also secures you coverage at premium rates when you are young and healthy.

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