

Puget Sound Energy

Understanding your LTD plan

Disability Insurance

Coverage that can help protect your income when you are unable to work due to illness or injury.

Explore the coverage that helps you protect your income and your lifestyle

What is Long Term Disability insurance?

Long Term Disability (LTD) insurance helps replace a portion of your income for an extended period of time.

Eligibility Requirements

Long Term Disability: All Full-Time and Part-Time Employees working at least 20 hours per week are eligible.

How is “Disability” defined under your Plan?

Generally, you are considered disabled and eligible for long term benefits if, due to sickness, pregnancy or accidental injury, you are receiving appropriate care and treatment and are complying with the requirements of the treatment, and, you are unable to earn more than 80% of your predisability earnings at your own occupation for any employer in in the Local Economy, and you are unable to perform each of the material duties of your own occupation for any employer in the Local Economy.

Following the Own Occupation period, you are considered disabled if, due to sickness, pregnancy, or accidental injury, you are receiving appropriate care and treatment and complying with the requirements of treatment and you are unable to earn 80% of your predisability earnings for any employer and you are unable to perform any gainful occupation for any employer in the Local Economy for which you are reasonably qualified taking into account your training, education, and experience.

For a complete description of this and other requirements that must be met, refer to the Certificate of Insurance provided by your Employer or contact your MetLife benefits administrator with any questions.

What is the benefit amount?

Long Term Disability:

The Long Term Disability benefit replaces a portion of your predisability monthly earnings, less other income you may receive from other sources¹ during the same Disability (e.g., Social Security, Workers' Compensation, vacation pay, etc.).

The benefit amount is 65% of your predisability monthly earnings subject to the plan's maximum monthly benefit.

When do benefits begin and how long do they continue?

Long Term Disability:

Benefits begin after the end of the elimination period. The elimination period begins on the day you become disabled and is the length of time you must wait while being disabled before you are eligible to receive a benefit. Your elimination period for Long Term Disability is 120 days.

Your plan's maximum benefit period and any specific limitations are described in the Certificate of Insurance provided by your Employer.

Additional Disability Plan Benefits: Coverage with Your Best Interests in Mind...

When you are ill or injured for a long time, MetLife believes you need more than a supplement to your income. That's why we offer return-to-work services, and assistance in obtaining Social Security Disability Benefits to help you get the maximum benefits from your coverage. (Please note — this assistance is only offered if you are approved for LTD benefits).

Services to Help You Get Back to Work Can Include:

Nurse Consultant or Case Manager Services: Specialists who personally contact you, your physician and your employer to coordinate an early return-to-work plan when appropriate.

Vocational Analysis: Help with identifying job requirements and determining how your skills can be applied to a new or modified job with your employer.

Job Modifications: Adjustments (e.g., redesign of workstation tools) that enable you to return to work.

Retraining: Development programs to help you return to your previous job or educate you for a new one.

Financial Incentives: Allow you to receive Disability benefits or partial benefits while attempting to return to work.

The Services of Social Security Specialists: Once you are approved for Disability benefits, MetLife can help you obtain Social Security Disability benefits. Our experts can guide you through the initial application and appeals processes and may also help you access assistance from attorneys or vendors to pursue Social Security benefits.

Questions & Answers

Q. Can I still receive benefits if I return to work part time?

A. Maybe. As long as you are disabled and meet the terms of your Disability plan, you may qualify for adjusted Disability benefits.

Your plan offers financial and Rehabilitation incentives designed to help you to return to work when appropriate, even on a part-time basis when you participate in an approved Rehabilitation Program.

While disabled, you may receive up to 100% of your predisability earnings for up to 24 months following your return to work when combining your disability benefit, Rehabilitation Incentives, your work earnings, and income from other sources.

With the Rehabilitation Incentive you can get a 10% increase in your monthly benefit.

The Family Care Incentive provides reimbursement up to \$400 per month for eligible expenses, such as childcare, during the first 24 months of Disability.

You may be eligible for the Moving Expense Incentive if you incur expenses in order to move to a new residence recommended as part of the Rehabilitation Program. Expenses must be approved in advance.

Q. Are there any exclusions for Pre-Existing Conditions?

A. Yes. Your plan may not cover a sickness or accidental injury that arose in the months prior to your participation in the plan. A complete description of the pre-existing condition exclusion is included in the Certificate of Insurance provided by your Employer or contact your MetLife benefits administrator with any questions.

Q. Are there any exclusions to my coverage?

A. Yes. Your plan does not cover any Disability which results from or is caused or contributed to by:

- War, whether declared or undeclared, or act of war, insurrection, rebellion, or terrorist act;
- Active participation in a riot;
- Intentionally self-inflicted injury or attempted suicide;
- Commission of or attempt to commit a felony.

Q. Are there any limitations to my coverage?

A. For Long Term Disability, limited benefits apply for specific conditions:

If you are disabled due to alcohol, drug, substance abuse or addiction, we will limit your disability benefits to a per occurrence period limit of Disability for 24 months. During Your Disability, we require you to participate in an alcohol, drug, substance abuse, or addiction recovery program recommended by a physician.

Benefits will end at the earliest of

- The date you receive 24 months of disability benefit payments;
- The date you cease or refuse to participate in the recovery program referred above; or
- The date you complete such recovery program.

If you are disabled due to mental or nervous disorders or diseases neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, or soft tissue disorder, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, and related conditions self-reported conditions, we will limit your Disability benefits to a per occurrence period limit equal to the lesser of:

- 24 months; or
- The Maximum Benefit Period.

If you are disabled due to neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, or soft tissue disorder chronic fatigue syndrome and related conditions we will limit your Disability benefits to a per occurrence period limit equal to the lesser of:

- 24 months; or
- The Maximum Benefit Period.

Your Disability benefits will be limited as stated above for mental or nervous disorder or disease except for:

- schizophrenia
- dementia
- organic brain disease

If you are confined in a Hospital or Mental Health Facility at the end of the period shown above for which benefits are to be paid, we will continue Your Monthly Benefits until the end of Your Hospital or Mental Health Facility confinement.

Other limitations or exclusions to your coverage may apply. Please review your Certificate of Insurance provided by your Employer for specific details or contact your benefits administrator with any questions.

Like most insurance policies, insurance policies offered by MetLife and its affiliates contain certain exclusions, exceptions, waiting periods, reductions, limitations, and terms for keeping them in force. Please contact MetLife or your plan administrator for complete details.

The “Plan Benefits” provides only a brief overview of the LTD plan. A more complete description of the benefits provisions, conditions, limitations, and exclusions will be included in the Certificate of Insurance

Summary Plan Description. If any discrepancies exist between this information and the legal plan documents, the legal plan documents will govern.

Long Term Disability (“LTD”) coverage is provided under a group insurance policy issued to your employer by MetLife. This LTD coverage terminates when your employment ceases, when you cease to be an eligible employee, when your LTD contributions cease (if applicable) or upon termination of the group contract by your employer. Like most group insurance policies, MetLife’s group policies contain certain exclusions, elimination periods, reductions, limitations and terms for keeping them in force. State variations may apply.

¹ Under certain circumstances, MetLife may estimate the amount of income you may receive from other sources.

