



# Key features of the Lifestyle security plan

For applicants in the UK



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The Financial Conduct Authority is a financial services regulator. It requires us, Dentists' Provident, to give you this important information to help you to decide whether our Lifestyle security plan is right for you. You should read this document carefully so that you understand what you are buying and then keep it safe for future reference.

## About Dentists' Provident

Dentists' Provident was started by dentists over a hundred years ago as a membership organisation to protect each other from the financial consequences of illness or injury.

We have been part of the profession ever since, working together to support dental professionals, just like you, with our highly flexible plans which are designed to be as individual as you are.

We are still owned and run by our members who are at the heart of everything we do. We are there when you need us, from university to retirement and beyond.

If you need more information about us or our plans, usually, your financial adviser is your first point of contact, as we are not allowed to give you financial advice. This means we can't recommend whether or not this plan is right for you. If you don't have a financial adviser or would like to speak to us, we are happy to answer any questions you may have to help you make your own decision.

### You can contact us on:

Main office: +44 (0) 20 7400 5700

Member services team: +44 (0) 20 7400 5710

Underwriting team: +44 (0) 20 7400 5720

Claims team: +44 (0) 20 7400 5730

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7400 5701

### Office opening hours:

8.30am-6.00pm, Monday to Friday

Email: [memberservices@dentistsprovident.co.uk](mailto:memberservices@dentistsprovident.co.uk)

Web: [www.dentistsprovident.co.uk](http://www.dentistsprovident.co.uk)

Address: 91-94 Saffron Hill, London, EC1N 8QP

Calls are recorded for our mutual security, training and monitoring purposes.



## Its aims

The Lifestyle security plan ('plan') pays you a regular benefit payment to help replace the income you lose if you can't work because you are ill or injured. The plan is not designed to pay benefits if you cannot work for any other reason, for example if your contract ends, your business ceases trading or if you choose to stop working.

This plan also gives you the right to a share of our financial surpluses every year, which grow in your bonus account to give you a cash fund when your plan ends.

## Your commitment

By applying for this plan, you agree to:

- read the important regulatory documents for this plan, which include the key information document, this key features document and the personalised illustration
- answer all our questions honestly, completely and to the best of your knowledge. If you are not sure whether something is relevant, you should mention it and give us as much information as you can
- select and then review your cover regularly so that it remains appropriate to your needs and is not more than your entitlement, which is based on your income
- tell us about an illness or injury within the time limits we have set
- pay your premiums in full and when they are due by Direct Debit, even when you are receiving benefit payments
- abide by our terms and conditions of membership, as set out in our current and any future rules and tables.

## Risks

We consider the following to be the key risks of this plan:

- if you do not answer all our questions, in your application or a subsequent claim, honestly, completely and to the best of your knowledge, we may not pay your claim and your membership of Dentists' Provident could be cancelled
- if you stop paying the premiums due, you will no longer be covered by your plan
- if you do not review your cover regularly, it may be more or less than what you need. The maximum benefit we will pay you is based on the income from your occupation before the start of your illness or injury. If your income is not enough to support your cover, we will reduce your benefit payments accordingly and you will not receive a refund of the premiums you have paid

- our premium rates are not guaranteed and can go up or down every year due to factors such as the cost of our claims or business expenses. Any changes will take place in January and we will write to you at least 60 days before to tell you how these will affect you
- the current tax treatment of your premiums and benefit payments under this plan could change in the future
- some illnesses and injuries are not covered by this plan. Please see 'When will this plan not pay out?' on page 9 for more details
- the benefit payments you receive from us may affect the amount you can claim under other income protection insurance policies
- the benefit payments you receive from us can also affect your entitlement to some state benefits. However, your entitlement to Employment and Support Allowance will not be affected. The rules regarding state benefits could change in the future
- we will apply an early withdrawal charge if you take the funds from your bonus account or cancel your plan early. Your bonus account is not guaranteed and the build-up of your bonus account is dependent on our overall financial performance and market conditions generally. Therefore, your bonus account could be smaller than what you expect
- the premiums for your participation units only give you a right to share in our financial surpluses. Therefore, depending on our financial performance, what you get back could be more or less than what you paid in
- if there are adverse market conditions, we can reduce our bonus rates or apply a bonus account reduction, which will reduce the value of your bonus account or the amount of money you receive when you take your funds. Please see 'Can the value in my bonus account go down?' on page 10 for more details.

## Your right to cancel

You can cancel your plan at any time by writing to our member services team. If you cancel your plan within its first two years, you will not receive anything from your bonus account. After that, if you cancel your plan before you are 55 years old, we will apply an early withdrawal charge to your bonus account, as determined by our board of directors.

## Questions and answers

This section aims to answer the common questions about this plan.

If there is anything else you would like to know, which is not covered here, please contact your financial adviser or our member services team, whose contact details can be found on page 3.

### About the plan

#### What is the Lifestyle security plan?

The Lifestyle security plan is a personal income protection insurance plan which pays you regular benefit payments to help replace the income you lose if you cannot work because you are ill or injured.

This plan comes with a number of features to help customise it to suit your needs. You therefore have to decide:

- the amount of your cover
- how soon, after your illness or injury, you want your benefit payments to start (the 'waiting period')
- which of the optional features of the plan you need
- how much you want to pay towards your participation units, which give you the right to share in our financial surpluses
- when you want your plan to stop.

This plan also has a number of standard features, which are described on pages 6-7.

#### Am I eligible for this plan?

Applications for this plan are by invitation only.

You can only apply for this plan if you are:

- a current member of Dentists' Provident
- less than 60 years old
- allowed to practise as a dentist in the UK
- living in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

#### How much will it cost?

Your personalised illustration shows the monthly premiums for your plan based on our standard premium rates. Your premiums depend on several factors such as your age, nicotine use, how you have chosen to customise your plan and how much you want to pay towards your participation units.

Sometimes, because of your health or family history, your actual premium will be different from that shown in your personalised illustration. If this happens, we will contact you to explain the reasons for this and we will not start your cover without your agreement.

#### How do I personalise my plan to suit my needs?

When setting up your plan, you will need to make a few decisions so that it meets your needs. You need to:

##### Select how much cover you would like

When selecting your cover, you should think about your current income and also the income you will receive when you are claiming.

If you make a claim we will calculate your maximum benefit payments based on your income at the time. If the total amount you receive from all sources exceeds our limits, we will adjust your benefit payments accordingly. For more information, please see section 'What benefit payments can I receive?' on page 9.

The combined maximum initial cover you can have under this and our other plans cannot be more than £132,000 a year, or £11,000 a month.

##### Select the waiting period for your claim

The waiting period for your claim, also called the deferred period, is how long after you stop working, because of an illness or injury, before your benefit payments start. You can choose from 54 waiting periods, ranging from no waiting period to 52 weeks as well as 104 weeks. You should select a waiting period which takes into account the changes in the income from your occupation after you stop working because of an illness or injury.

##### Select the age when your cover stops

Your plan and your entitlement to benefits will end automatically when all your covers end, which will normally be on your 67th birthday. However, you can choose any age between 55 and 67, if it better suits your needs. If your long term career plans change after your plan has started, you can reduce the age when your cover stops by giving us advance notice.

##### Select if you would like your premium rate to remain the same regardless of your age

If you select this option your premium rate will not normally increase with your age. However, all the premiums for this plan are reviewable. This means that we can change your premiums every January because of changes in our claims costs or business expenses. If we review our premium rates, we will give you at least 60 days advanced notice of any changes.

If the premium rates increase, you can choose to pay the increased premiums or keep your monthly premiums the same by reducing your cover or your participation units.



### **Decide how your benefits are paid on long term claims**

This plan has three options for you to choose from:

**Stepped decreasing benefit payments** - This option is not offered on our online service and is only available for cover with no waiting period.

If you select this option, then your benefit payments will be made at the full rate for the first six months of your claim, decreasing to half your initial rate for the next six months and then to 30% of the initial rate for the remainder of your claim.

**Constant benefit payments** - If you select this option, your benefit payments will be made at the same rate throughout your claim.

**Benefit payments that increase with inflation** - If you choose this option, your benefit payments will increase in line with the UK consumer price index every January. These automatic increases will begin in the January after you have received benefit payments for 12 months. We will not increase your benefits by more than 7.5% in any year and 200% overall.

### **Select the optional features for your cover**

The optional features help you customise your cover further. These are:

**Inflation protecting your cover** - If you choose this option, your cover will increase in line with the UK consumer price index every January. These automatic increases will begin in the January after you have held your cover for 12 months. We will not increase your cover by more than 7.5% in any year and 200% overall.

**Option to increase your cover in the future without medical assessment** - This option lets you increase your cover by up to 40% of the initial amount, without any medical assessment after you have had the cover and paid your premiums for 6 years. Please refer to the plan terms and conditions for further information.

**Additional benefits in case of a severe illness or injury** - If you choose this option and you have an illness or injury that leaves you unable to carry out at least three out of our six activities of day to day living, we will increase your monthly benefit payments by 25% of the monthly amount payable at the start of your claim, after you have received benefit payments for two years.

### **Select how much would you like to pay towards your participation units**

Every year we return part of our financial surpluses to members as bonuses, which are held in their bonus accounts. These bonuses build up a cash fund, available for when the plan ends. Participation units give you the right to share in these surpluses and the number of participation units you have determines how much of our financial surplus is allocated to you.

You can decide how much you want to pay towards your participation units. The maximum amount depends on the number of participation units you are entitled to have, which is calculated as the value of your monthly cover divided by 10. You must hold at least 1 participation unit with each plan.

The premium for your participation units does not normally change with your age and you can alter the number of units you have, within the above limits, at any time.

### **What are the standard features of the plan?**

Your plan also comes with a number of features as standard, these are:

#### **Changing your waiting period**

If your employment status changes, for example you change from being an employee to becoming self employed, or change jobs, you can change the waiting period of your cover to suit your new role. If your cover has a waiting period of four weeks or more, you can reduce it to a minimum of two weeks without any further medical assessment. Please refer to the plan terms and conditions for further information.

You can ask us to increase your waiting period without the need for a medical assessment at any time.

#### **Career break**

If you take a career break and stop working, you can suspend your cover. This means you will not have to pay any premiums for your cover but you will not be able to make a claim. However, you will need to continue paying premiums for your participation units during this time.

You are entitled to 36 months break over the life of your plan. You do not have to use the full allowance at the same time and you can take multiple breaks, as long as each one lasts at least six months. Please refer to the plan terms and conditions for further information.

### Educational break

If you stop working to study for a qualification which allows you to join one of the GDC's speciality lists, then you can take an educational break. If you become ill or injured during this break, we will still assess any claim based on whether you can perform the occupation you were in before you started the qualification, and we will use your earnings from that role to calculate your benefit payments.

During an educational break, the premium for your cover is reduced by 75%. Each break must be for at least three months, and no longer than 12 months in total throughout the life of your membership.

### Cover when you are not working

If you are not working and you become ill or injured and you cannot carry out at least three of our six activities of day to day living, we will still pay you benefit payments based on the lower of either the total value of your monthly cover or £2,000 per month.

### Minimum benefit assurance

If your income changes after the start of your cover and we cannot pay your claim in full, this option ensures that the total amounts you receive from us and other third parties will not fall below a predetermined level. Please refer to the plan terms and conditions for further information.

### Respite care benefit

If a serious illness or injury means that you require full time care by a member of your family, this benefit gives your carer the ability to take some time to look after their own needs. In any 12 month period, we will pay the full cost, or up to £4,000 towards the cost, of a two week stay in a residential care facility for you.

### Transplant benefit

If you donate an organ or part of an organ for a lifesaving procedure, we will pay you a cash lump sum equivalent to four months of your benefit payments in addition to any other benefit payments that you are entitled to.

### Back to work benefit

If your claim lasts longer than one month and you need specialist equipment or therapy to support your return to work, then we will contribute up to £3,000 throughout your membership to help towards these costs.

### Hospitalisation benefit

If you are admitted to hospital during your waiting period, we will pay you the lower of 1/30th of your monthly cover or £150 for every night's stay after your first seven consecutive nights stay. We will continue to pay you this benefit until the earliest of the end of your stay, the end of your waiting period or we have paid the benefit for 90 nights stay. This benefit is only available if your cover has a waiting period of three weeks or more.

### Extra benefit for terminal conditions

If the condition you are claiming for is terminal and you die before your plan ends, then we will increase your final benefit payment by an amount equivalent to six months' regular benefit payments.

### Family carer benefit

If you have to stop work completely to care for your spouse, civil partner or child if they are diagnosed with a terminal illness or they suffer from a permanent and irreversible illness or injury which means they are unable to perform at least three of our six activities of day to day living, we will pay you up to £1,950 per month or the amount of your cover if it is lower for up to two years.

### If I am employed by the National Health Service ('NHS'), how do I protect my income after my sick pay stops?

You can protect your NHS pay by splitting your cover equally between our 26 week and 52 week waiting periods. If at the time you make a claim, you have not built up enough service to qualify for the full NHS sick pay entitlement; we will reduce our waiting period to match your entitlement, at no extra cost. The minimum waiting period we will apply to your cover is four weeks.

### Will my plan cover me if I move abroad?

You can receive benefit payments for a maximum combined period of 10 years on all claims where you live in any of the following:

- Australia
- British Overseas Territories
- Canada
- European Union
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Singapore
- Switzerland.

If you are not living in the UK or any of the places listed above, your benefit payments will be limited to a maximum combined period of 12 months.

## Making a claim

### When can I claim?

You can make a claim when you lose income because you cannot work as a result of your illness or injury. You should check your benefit statement and plan documents to see if the condition you are suffering from is not covered. If your condition is covered, you should contact our claims team for a claim form within two weeks of stopping work if your waiting period is less than five weeks, or four weeks otherwise.

To make a claim, please contact our claims team on:

Telephone: **+44 (0) 20 7400 5730**

Email: **claims@dentistsprovident.co.uk**

Address: **91-94 Saffron Hill  
London  
EC1N 8QP**

### How do I claim?

To make a claim, you need to complete and return the claim form within 90 days of the end of your waiting period. To help us settle your claim quickly, please answer all of the questions completely, accurately and to the best of your knowledge, as well as providing any information we ask for, as soon as possible.

Your doctor will also need to complete the medical certificate attached to the claim form and you need to give us evidence of your income, such as your most recent financial statements, tax return or payslips.

## How will you assess my claim?

If you are working immediately before your illness or injury, we will assess your claim based on your inability to carry out the material and substantial duties of your occupation. In addition, your income must have fallen because of your illness or injury and you must also not be doing any other work, unless you are making a phased return.

If you were not working immediately before your illness or injury and you do not have a formally agreed start date for a new role, we will assess your claim based on your inability to independently carry out three of the following six activities of day to day living:

- eating food which has been prepared and made available to you
- putting on, taking off all garments and any braces, artificial limbs or other surgical appliances
- washing in a bath or shower or by any other means
- maintaining a satisfactory level of personal and toilet hygiene
- getting in and out of bed into an upright chair
- getting from one room to another.

Your illness or injury needs to be diagnosed by a doctor who is competent in the relevant field. You must also remain under their regular care throughout your time off work and comply with their reasonable recommendations.

We may also ask you for further evidence of your illness or injury. This can include asking you to attend a medical examination or meeting with our appointed representatives. If you do not give us the information we ask for, we may not be able to start or continue paying your claim.



## What benefit payments can I receive?

The maximum annual benefit payments you can receive cannot be more than:

- 70% of the first £20,000 of your income before the start of the claim, plus
- 60% of the next £20,000, plus
- 50% of the next £20,000, plus
- 47.5% of your income before the start of the claim above £60,000.

We will reduce the maximum benefits we can pay by the amount of any regular benefits due under any similar insurance plans and any income you receive during the claim. If any of the income is taxable, we will only take 75% of that income into account in our calculations.

When you make a claim, we will need:

- details of any other similar insurance plans and income you will receive when you are not working
- if you are employed, details of your salary, overtime payments, bonuses and benefits in kind before tax in the 12 months before your illness or injury. If you are a shareholder and director of the business you work in, we will also need details of the amount of profits of the business attributable to your shareholding
- if you are self employed, details of your net profit before tax in the 12 months before your illness or injury.

If the maximum benefits you are entitled to are lower than your cover, we will not refund you any premiums.

## How long will I receive my benefit payments?

You will receive your benefit payments until the earliest of the following:

- you no longer meet our requirements for the payment of benefits
- your plan or cover ends or is cancelled
- your death.

## How do I receive my benefit payments?

Your benefit payments are paid monthly in arrears after the end of your waiting period. If your claim is for less than one month, you will receive your benefit payment at the end of your claim, based on an appropriate fraction of your monthly cover amount.

We will usually pay your benefit payments directly into your UK bank account within three days of the payment being authorised, however where we cannot do this, we will send you a cheque, normally on the same day.

## What if my illness or injury reoccurs?

If your illness or injury reoccurs within 12 months of going back to work and you need to make a claim, we will treat the second claim as a continuation of your original claim. This means we will not apply the waiting period again and your new claim will restart on the same basis as the original one.

## What happens if I can only return to work on a part time basis or in a lesser paid job?

If you can only return to work in a part time or lower paid role because of your illness or injury and you have been receiving your benefit payments for at least a month, then, you will continue receiving part of your benefit payments.

You must not be able to work for more than 18 hours a week or 55% of the hours you worked before your illness or injury, whichever is lower. You must also remain under the care and supervision of your specialist and continue receiving proper medical treatment.

## When will this plan not pay out?

In addition to any conditions specifically excluded from your cover as a result of your medical or family history, this plan will not pay out if your illness or injury is caused by:

- participation in a criminal act
- deliberate self-harm or alcohol, drugs or substance abuse
- failure to keep your recommended immunisations up to date
- procedures and treatments which are not medically necessary, unless they are the result of an illness or accident and your specialist recommends that you have the procedure or treatment.

## About the bonus account

### How will my cash fund accumulate?

Each year we distribute part of our financial surpluses by crediting your bonus account with a mutuality dividend and interest. Your mutuality dividend is based on how many participation units you held in the previous year and your interest on the starting value of your bonus account that year. These bonuses build up a cash fund, available when your plan ends.

### What might I get back?

We do not guarantee our future bonuses, and the amount you get back will depend on several factors. For example, the length of your membership, the number of units you held, how well we, and our investments perform, any withdrawals you might make from your bonus account and whether any early cancellation charges or bonus account reductions apply, can all affect the final balance of your bonus account.

### When can I access the cash fund in my bonus account?

You can access the cash fund in your bonus account when your plan ends.

If you cancel your plan within its first two years, you will not receive anything from your bonus account. If, after that, you cancel your plan or take the cash fund from your bonus account before you are 55, we will apply an early withdrawal charge, as determined by our board of directors.

### Can the value in my bonus account go down?

If our income and reserves are insufficient to meet our financial obligations, the bonuses previously added to your bonus account can be reclaimed to make good any deficiency.

Also, a bonus account reduction can be applied if there is a material difference between the value of a withdrawing member's bonus account and the value of the underlying assets. This reduction will only be applied to protect members who are not making a withdrawal, as its application means that all members receive only their fair share of our assets.

We currently do not apply bonus account reductions, but we reserve the right to change our practise at any time, particularly in the event of a significant adverse movement in the investment markets or increase in the level of withdrawals by members. Any change in our practice will be made without prior notice and would apply to all planholders.

## Other information

### What happens to my plan if I die?

This plan will end automatically on your death and the balance of your bonus account and any payments due under your cover will be paid to your estate after any payments to your nominees.

### Are there any other charges?

Your premiums as shown in your personalised illustration include all of the costs of administration, underwriting, claims, selling expenses and any fees payable for any medical examinations that we ask you to attend as part of your application.

However, if you need to claim, you are responsible for the costs of providing all routine financial and medical information to support your claim.

### What about tax?

Present UK tax law and HM Revenue & Customs practice means that:

- premium payments on individual income protection plans are not an allowable expense in calculating your income tax liability
- your benefit payments, your annual bonuses and any withdrawals you may make from your bonus account are free from national insurance, income and capital gains tax.

The tax rules could change in the future, so please bear in mind that you and/or we, could be liable to taxes or other costs in the future.

### Can I change my mind?

Yes. When your cover starts we will send you a cancellation notice. If you change your mind and decide that you no longer want your plan, you will have 30 days to return the notice. Any premium payments you have made will be refunded after subtracting any benefit payments you have received from us.

### Can you cancel my plan?

We cannot cancel your plan simply because of the number of claims you make. However, there are certain instances where we can cancel your plan and your membership before its end date. For example, if:

- you are barred or suspended from your occupation for disciplinary reasons
- you are in material breach of our terms and conditions
- you are made bankrupt or make any arrangement or composition with your creditors
- you are convicted of an offence which carries a custodial sentence or one involving corruption or dishonesty such as fraud, theft, deception, misrepresentation or misappropriation of funds.

## Complaints

We are committed to providing our members with the highest standards of service. However, if we fail to live up to our normal standards, please contact us as soon as you can on:

Telephone: **+44 (0) 20 7400 5700**

Email: **complaints@dentistsprovident.co.uk**

Address: **91-94 Saffron Hill  
London  
EC1N 8QP**

We are committed to listening to our members and taking action where necessary. If you have a complaint, we will acknowledge it in writing within five working days of receiving it. We aim to resolve all complaints within four weeks, however sometimes this can take longer. If so, we will write to you to explain the reason for the delay and give you an indication of when to expect our decision, along with details of the options available to you.

If you are not satisfied with our final response, you can choose to either refer the matter to our panel of independent arbitrators or the Financial Ombudsman Service.

The contact details for the Financial Ombudsman Service are:

### Financial Ombudsman Service

**Exchange Tower  
London  
E14 9SR**

Telephone: **0800 023 4567 or 0300 123 9 123**

Email: **complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk**

Web: **www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk**

Complaining to the Ombudsman will not affect your legal rights. For further information about your legal rights, please contact your solicitor or the Citizens Advice Bureau.

## Terms and conditions

This key features document is a summary of the main features of our Lifestyle security plan and does not include all the definitions, exclusions, terms and conditions applicable to this plan; you can find these in our memorandum and rules.

Sometimes, because of your health or family history, we may apply additional or different terms and conditions to your plan. If this happens we will contact you to explain our reasons and we will not start your cover without your agreement.

If you would like a copy of our rules please ask your financial adviser or, alternatively, visit our website at **www.dentistsprovident.co.uk**

Our terms and conditions of membership will evolve over time in response to changes in the insurance industry and the dental profession. If we need to make any changes we will contact you to explain our proposals. Our members also have the right to vote on certain changes, so you will have the opportunity to engage with us before the proposed changes take effect. Further details are set out in our memorandum and rules.

## Law and language

Our rules and plans will be construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales and will be subject, save as set out in our rules, to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales. All our communication with you will be in English.

## Financial services compensation scheme

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

You may qualify for compensation from the FSCS if we cannot meet our obligations due to financial insolvency. The compensation you may receive depends on the type of business and the nature of the claim.

Most investment business is covered for 100% of the first £85,000 per person per firm and the scheme may cover you for 100% of any successful insurance claim you make.

You can obtain further information from the FSCS at:

### Financial Services Compensation Scheme

**10th Floor, Beaufort House  
15 St Botolph Street  
London  
EC3A 7QU**

Telephone: **+44 (0) 20 7741 4100**

Web: **www.fscs.org.uk**

## **Dentists' Provident**

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Fax: +44 (0) 20 7400 5701 [www.dentistsprovident.co.uk](http://www.dentistsprovident.co.uk)

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