



# Singapore - Disability Benefits

## Provided through Great Eastern Life, GEB's Network Partner in Singapore

Founded in 1908, Great Eastern Life is one of the oldest and most established insurers in Southeast Asia. With assets of over S\$100 billion, and operations in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei, Great Eastern is a leading provider of life, health and financial services, with more than 16 million policyholders throughout the region. Great Eastern is one of the top 3 insurers in Singapore (S&P rating of AA-), providing coverage for nearly half a million employees and their families through group benefit products. Their benefit solutions and quality service have been recognised in the marketplace, with Great Eastern winning the 'Most Transparent Company Award 2023' (Financials Category) at the SIAS Investors' Choice Awards in Singapore.

### Causes of Disability

Common causes of disability in Singapore include Musculoskeletal, Neurological, Cardiovascular and Psychiatric disorders, as well as Cancers and visual impairments.<sup>1</sup> Disability has a significant impact on inpatient care costs, with lifetime hospitalisation expenses for disabled individuals projected to be 30% higher than for those without disability.<sup>2</sup> Many causes of disability can be managed through early intervention, lifestyle changes and education. For disorders that progress to disability and eventual absence from work, Great Eastern Life Singapore offers Disability benefits and associated support services.

### Disability Products

Great Eastern offers Long Term Disability (LTD) for the local market. Following is a description of standard product features:

**Definition of Long Term Disability:** Disability is defined as such a state of incapacity that the claimant is, by reason of illness or accident: (a) totally unable to follow their own occupation or any other occupation to which they are suited by reason of training, education or experience, and (b) not following any occupation. Disability shall be deemed to have commenced on the date on which the claimant is certified by a registered medical practitioner to be suffering from a Disability as defined above.

**Benefits structure:** LTD benefits are typically calculated as 75% of annual salary up to an annual maximum payment of 150K.

**Deferred Period, Duration of cover:** The standard Deferred Period for LTD is 6 months. If the disability extends beyond the Deferred period, Great Eastern shall pay the Disability Benefit stated in the Endorsement Schedule beginning from the date immediately after the expiry of the Deferred Period until the date of occurrence of any of the following events, whichever is the earliest:

- When the Benefit Period specified in the Endorsement Schedule expires;
- When the Insured Member reaches the Termination Age specified in the Endorsement Schedule;
- When the Insured Member resumes his/her occupation or engages in any other occupation;
- When the Insured Member is certified by a Registered Medical Practitioner to be medically fit to resume his/her occupation or engage in any other occupation except as otherwise noted in the policy; or
- When the Insured Member dies.

**Claims process, notice period:** The Insured Member or their legal representative must notify Great Eastern in writing within 30 days of any potentially disabling event. However, the claim will not be invalidated if it can be shown that it was not reasonably possible for the claimant to notify the insurer within this period.

1-"Diseases That Result in Disability in Adults", The Singapore Family Physician, Vol. 38, No. 2, Dr. Chan Kin Ming, 2012, [https://www.cfps.org.sg/publications/the-singapore-family-physician/article/109\\_pdf](https://www.cfps.org.sg/publications/the-singapore-family-physician/article/109_pdf); 2-The Journal of the Economics of Ageing, 14 (2019) <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212828X18300793>; GEBDIS/Singapore\_12.2024

Note: When moving contracts, past liabilities and associated reserves remain with the prior insurer.

Note: capabilities vary by country and change periodically; for complete details on all current capabilities and programmes please contact your GEB representative. The information contained in this document is provided by Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A - Luxembourg Branch (the "Branch") for general information purposes only. While the Branch endeavours to keep the information up to date and correct, it makes no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, sustainability, or availability concerning the document or the information, products, services, or related graphics contained in this document for any purpose. Any reliance placed on such information is therefore at the user's risk. GEBDIS/Singapore\_12.01.24