

› Voluntary Hospital Indemnity Insurance



When you're hospitalized, expenses can add up quickly.

Hospital stays can be stressful and having to worry about the high costs of hospitalization should not be part of the recovery plan. Hospital Indemnity insurance helps to ease your mind about handling hospitalization costs – even if they are not hospital bills.

A hospital indemnity insurance policy supplements your medical coverage and provides a cash benefit for hospital related fees you or an insured family member sustain as a result of being hospitalized. This benefit can be used to pay out-of-pocket medical expenses, help supplement your daily living expenses and cover unpaid time off work.

As an active employee of Merkel Independent School District, you have hospital indemnity coverage for yourself and your family members, and premiums can be deducted from your paycheck. Hospital indemnity supplements your existing health insurance coverage by helping pay for out-of-pocket expenses incurred due to an injury or illness that may not be covered under other insurance plans.



Coverage guidelines and benefits are outlined below.

This insurance offers financial protection by paying a cash benefit if you or an insured dependent are hospitalized. The benefit amount payable is the same for you and your insured dependent(s).

IMPORTANT: This is a fixed indemnity policy, NOT health insurance. This fixed indemnity policy may pay you a limited dollar amount if you're sick or hospitalized. You're still responsible for paying the cost of your care. The payment you get isn't based on the size of your medical bill. There might be a limit on how much this policy will pay each year. This policy isn't a substitute for comprehensive health insurance. Since this policy isn't health insurance, it doesn't have to include most Federal consumer protections that apply to health insurance. **Looking for comprehensive health insurance? Visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or call 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325) to find health coverage options.** To find out if you can get health insurance through your job, or a family member's job, contact the employer. **Questions about this policy?** For questions or complaints about this policy, contact your State Department of Insurance. Find their number on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' website ([naic.org](https://www.naic.org)) under "Insurance Departments." If you have this policy through your job, or a family member's job, contact the employer.

ELIGIBILITY - ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

Eligibility Requirement	You must be actively working a minimum of 20 hours per week to be eligible for coverage.
Dependent Eligibility Requirement	To be eligible for coverage, your dependents must be able to perform normal activities, and not be confined (at home, in a hospital, or in any other care facility), and any child(ren) must be under age 26. In order for your spouse and/or child(ren) to be eligible for coverage, you must elect coverage for yourself.
Premium Payment	The premiums for this insurance are paid in full by you.

BENEFITS**AMOUNTS**

Hospital Admission & Confinement - Admission benefits are payable up to a combined total of 4 days per policy year and are not payable on the same day; Confinement benefits are payable up to a combined total of 30 days per policy year unless otherwise noted and are not payable on the same day as Hospital/ICU admission benefits.

Hospital Admission	\$1,000 per admission
Daily Hospital Confinement	\$100 per day
ICU Admission	\$2,000 per admission
Daily ICU Confinement	\$200 per day
Daily Newborn Nursery Care Confinement (Up to 2 days per policy year)	\$50 per day

Additional Benefits

Health Screening Benefit (1 time per insured per calendar year; up to 6 per family per calendar year)	\$50
Express Benefits (1 benefit per hospital admission)	\$100

SERVICES

Hearing Discount Program	The Hearing Discount program provides you and your family discounted hearing products, including hearing aids and batteries. Call 1-888-534-1747 or visit www.amplifonusa.com/mutualofomaha to learn more.
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Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for this insurance?

To be eligible for this insurance:

- You must be actively working (performing all normal duties of your job) at least 20 hours per week and be under age 80
- Your dependent(s) must be performing normal activities and not be confined (at home or in a hospital/care facility) and any child(ren) must be under age 26

Is hospitalization due to childbirth covered?

Yes, maternity is covered under this policy.

What are “Express Benefits”?

This benefit is payable upon notification of an insured person’s hospital or ICU admission. It can be paid in a short time frame with minimal information (compared to a typical hospital or ICU admission claim).

Can I take this insurance with me if I change jobs / am no longer a member of this group?

In the event this insurance ends due to a change in your employment / membership status with the group, or for certain other reasons, you or your insured spouse have the right to continue this insurance under the Portability provision, subject to certain conditions.

When does this insurance end?

Insurance will end when an insured person no longer satisfies the applicable eligibility conditions, or when you reach the age of 80. Additional circumstances under which insurance will end are described in the certificate.

Are there any exclusions or limitations?

The benefits payable are subject to the following:

- Treatment for injury or sickness must occur on or after the insured person’s coverage effective date and while the policy is in-force. The benefit amounts payable are based on the type and amount of insurance in effect on the date treatment of injury or sickness occurs, subject to the definitions, limitations, exclusions and other provisions of the policy.
- The exclusions and additional limitations are summarized in the outline of coverage and detailed in the certificate.

All exclusions may not be applicable, or may be adjusted, as required by state regulations. Please contact your benefits administrator for a copy of the outline of coverage or if you have questions prior to enrolling.

The IRS limits the types of supplemental insurance that an individual who participates in a Health Savings Account (HSA) may have, while still maintaining the tax-exempt status of HSA contributions. The IRS allows additional insurance that provides benefits for “a fixed amount per day (or other period) of hospitalization.” Anyone who has or plans to open an HSA, should consult tax and legal advisors to determine which supplemental benefits may be purchased by employees with an HSA.

The information describes some of the features of your group hospital indemnity plan. Benefits may not be available in all states. Please refer to the certificate booklet for a full explanation of the plan’s benefits, exclusions, and limitations. Should there be any discrepancy between the certificate booklet and this document, the certificate booklet will prevail.

Hospital Indemnity insurance is underwritten by United of Omaha Life Insurance Company, 3300 Mutual of Omaha Plaza, Omaha, NE 68175, 1-800-769-7159. United of Omaha Life Insurance Company is licensed nationwide, except in New York. Policy form number G2018MP or state equivalent.

