

ADA American
Dental
Association®
America's leading
advocate for oral health

INFOpak

2009

Personal Insurance

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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Why Insurance Matters

What would happen if an accident or deterioration in your health prevents you from practicing dentistry? Or if you should die before your loans are paid off? It's not unduly pessimistic to think of the worst. It's just smart to always be prepared because anything can happen. This Infopak provides an overview of the insurance options available to help protect your most valuable investment— you!

The ADA and the ASDA have insurance plans and resources for student members. For information on reimbursement visit www.ada.org/goto/drplan and for dental benefit plans go to ADA.org click on A-Z topics and "Dental Benefits/Insurance Plans".

Insurance Options for Dental Student Members

Get the insurance you need to protect yourself, your family, and your future income. Over 100,000 dentists, dental students, and their dependents are insured through ADA-sponsored policies each year. Each ADA policy is designed by practicing dentists with the needs of members in mind. All the homework is done for you. So you can be confident you're getting an excellent value and exactly what you will need today and throughout your career.

As long as you are an ASDA/ADA member and actively attending classes full-time at an accredited U.S. dental school, you are eligible to participate in the ADA's group insurance program. Coverage is even guaranteed without a medical exam if you are under age 40. If you are 40 or older, you can get coverage so long as you meet the plans' standards of good health.

The ADA Insurance Plans are underwritten and administered by Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company. Once enrolled, Great-West Life will mail you a Certificate of Insurance to keep with your important papers or give to a family member for safekeeping.



ADA Student Term Life Insurance

As an ASDA/ADA member, you qualify for FREE life insurance!

\$50,000 of FREE life insurance plus \$50,000 accidental death coverage = **\$100,000** benefit if death is due to an accident.

- At no cost to you - premiums are fully paid by the ADA through December 31 of your graduation year
- No medical exam if you are under age 40
- Coverage automatically doubles on July 1 of your graduation year
- Full renewal privileges after graduation, including member-only discounts

If you are a member under age 40, there is no need for a medical exam. You are **guaranteed** to get this insurance, but you **must** complete an [enrollment form](#) (available at insurance.ada.org) to activate your free coverage.

Why Life Insurance?

Do you have family members—parents, siblings, a spouse, children—who could be

financially disadvantaged if you die at a young age? Who would have to pay off your student debt?

Getting life insurance is a responsible way to help safeguard your loved ones. But it's usually required by lenders and prospective business partners as collateral for the financing you need to own a practice. The ADA makes it as easy as possible for you to obtain this important insurance, so you can cover your financial obligations during school and establish a foundation for the insurance portfolio you will use throughout your life.

How It Works

Student coverage is issued under the ADA members' Term Life Plan. Once Great-West Life receives your enrollment form, your coverage will be activated. Your premiums will be paid by the ADA member dentists insured in the Plan. Your coverage will continue without interruption and without re-enrolling as long as you remain an ASDA member and predoctoral student.

On your enrollment form, you will be asked to designate your beneficiary, but you may change your beneficiary at any time. You should review your beneficiary designation if you get married or have a child. Your beneficiary designation is legally binding and cannot be changed without your consent.

If you should die while your coverage is in force, Great-West Life will pay your beneficiary \$50,000. If death results from an accident, then the Accidental Death provision could essentially double the payment to your beneficiary. Certain limitations do apply to the Accidental Death benefit.

Applying for Additional Insurance while in School

During your first three years of dental school, you can apply to increase your life insurance to as much as \$500,000. In your graduation year, you can apply to increase your insurance to as much as \$2 million. You can also apply for life insurance for your spouse and eligible children at any time. Any additional insurance you request will be subject to meeting the plan's standards of good health, and billed to you directly. The low rates for ADA Term Life are based on your age and increase incrementally each year.

Getting extra life insurance while you're young and healthy is smart, since you can renew ADA-sponsored insurance without a medical exam even if you develop health problems later. Also, having a robust insurance portfolio prior to graduation makes good business sense as it can give you the ability to obtain financing more quickly when you locate the practice or home of your dreams.

After Dental School—Your Graduation Gift

On July 1 of your graduation year, your free life insurance coverage will automatically double to \$100,000 (the Accidental Death coverage doubles to \$100,000 too). This may be the only time you will ever be able to obtain life insurance regardless of your health. In addition, the first \$100,000 of your ADA Term Life will remain free to you for another six months, or through December 31 of your graduation year, while you transition into the next phase of your career.

Coverage Beyond Your Graduation Year

After the free period ends, you may keep your ADA life insurance—to age 81!—just by paying the discounted premiums when due and maintaining your ADA membership. No medical exam is ever required to continue the insurance you got during dental school. You can also apply for additional life insurance for yourself or your family members at any time

before age 65 (extra coverage is subject to meeting the plan's health standards).

More Information

888.463.4545

ada@gwl.com

www.insurance.ada.org

ADA Student Disability Insurance

As an ASDA/ADA member, you qualify for low-cost disability insurance!

Choose between \$1,000 or \$2,000 of monthly disability benefit

- Available anytime before May 1 of your graduation year
- No medical exam if you are under age 40
- Full "own-occupation" benefits for up to 2 years and "any occupation" benefits for up to 5 additional years
- Student loan repayment benefit up to \$500 per month in addition to your monthly disability benefit (up to a maximum of \$36,000)
- Automatic conversion on September 1 of your graduation year with instant upgrade to the exclusive plan for practicing dentists

If you are under age 40, there is no need for a medical exam or other requirements for eligibility. As long as you are an ASDA member and actively attending classes full-time at a U.S. accredited dental school, you are **guaranteed** to get this insurance simply by completing an [enrollment form](#) (available at insurance.ada.org).

Why Disability Insurance?

What would happen if an extended illness or injury interrupts or, worse, permanently ends your ability to continue dental school or to practice dentistry? The risks of a long-term or permanent disability are much higher than premature death.

Disability insurance will be essential to your financial security throughout your career. Even now, before you begin practicing, you likely still have bills to pay and debts that have accumulated. ADA Student disability insurance helps you meet those obligations if you become disabled while in school. And, because it automatically converts to the ADA plan for practicing dentists after graduation, there need not be one day you are not covered by disability insurance until you retire!

How it Works

Student coverage is issued under the ADA Student Disability Plan in the amount you select on your enrollment form (either \$1,000 or \$2,000 of monthly benefit). Great-West Life will bill you directly for your coverage, which will be active and in force once your premium payment is received. Premiums are \$30 or \$60 per year in 2009-10, depending on the option you choose, and coverage renews each September 1. Your student coverage will continue without interruption and without re-enrolling as long as you remain an ASDA member and pre-doctoral student, and pay premiums when due.

Once enrolled, if an injury or illness prevents you from continuing your studies for at least 90 days, you are eligible to receive benefits, which may be payable monthly for up to 24 months and, under certain conditions, beyond that point for an additional five years. Monthly disability checks can be used any way you like—to cover personal expenses, loan payments, and even the cost to retrain for another career if necessary.

Affordable Student Rates

You may be surprised at how inexpensive it is to protect yourself with student disability insurance.

Coverage Amount	\$1,000/month	\$2,000/month
2009-10 Annual Premium	\$30	\$60

After Dental School

After you graduate, your student disability coverage will be converted automatically to the ADA Income Protection Plan, which provides you with a number of plan enhancements (like full “own occupation” benefits all the way to age 65) and access to a number of plan design options that are important for a practicing dentist (cost of living adjustment, partial disability benefits, future increases without a medical exam, etc.).

No medical exam or conversion fee is required to convert your student coverage to the ADA Income Protection Plan. And once you’re working at least 20 hours per week in clinical practice or residency, you can also apply for additional disability insurance at any time before age 60 (extra coverage and plan options are subject to proof of good health). The ADA Income Protection Plan provides up to \$10,000 in monthly coverage, with competitive rates based on your age, to give you room to grow your coverage as your income from dentistry increases.

More Information

888.463.4545

ada@gwl.com

www.insurance.ada.org

Examination and Boards Insurance

It is important to consider insurance protection against potential liability that may arise when you perform clinical services during dental training and prepare to take your clinical board exams. Most licensing jurisdictions will require evidence of professional liability (dental malpractice) insurance coverage.

The Exam Agency

Check with the exam agency before purchasing dental professional liability insurance. Many exam agencies include the cost of student liability insurance in the fees. (The following information was obtained in December 2008.) **Be sure to find out the details from your agency to confirm you have coverage!**

- **Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA)**
CITA has purchased a blanket Professional Liability Insurance policy that covers all dental and dental hygiene candidates, and their assistants, for all CITA examinations. The cost of that coverage is included in CITA’s examination fee. Candidates who have purchased a policy in anticipation of an upcoming examination should contact their agent to see if a premium refund is possible.

For more information, contact CITA:

www.citaexam.com
919.460.7750
info@citaexam.com

- **Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS)**

Dental professional liability insurance is furnished for all candidates participating in the Central Regional Dental Testing Service examinations, by the CNA Insurance Company through the Professional Protector Plan, administered by Brown and Brown, Inc., Tampa, Florida. If candidates prefer not to have their name released to Brown and Brown, Inc., they must notify CRDTS and furnish a copy of their own coverage information.

For more information, contact CRDTS:

www.crdts.org
785.273.0380 voice

- **Western Regional Examining Board (WREB)**

The CNA Insurance Company, through the Professional Protector Plan in cooperation with WREB, will extend WREB professional liability coverage with the limit amounts of \$1,000,000/\$3,000,000 for the names and addresses of all candidates sent to the CNA Company.

For more information, contact WREB:

www.wreb.org
602. 944.3315
dentalinfo@wreb.org

- **Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA)**

According to SRTA staff, dental malpractice insurance is required. Candidates that do not have insurance may complete a form to request coverage under SRTA's provider. The insurance coverage is available at no charge.

For more information, contact SRTA:

www.srta.org
757.318.9082
exam@srta.org

Dental School Coverage

Candidates who take the exam in the same state as their dental school may be covered by the professional liability insurance offered through your dental school. Talk with your school insurance provider to find out if coverage is included for your clinical examination.

Dental Malpractice Insurance

Although the ADA does not endorse or evaluate professional liability insurance companies, the Council on Members Insurance and Retirement Programs does maintain a "Directory of Professional Liability Insurers" exclusively for ADA members to assist them in purchasing coverage. The Directory lists the insurance companies writing dental malpractice in each state, the insurance agent or broker contacts and Web site links. To view this information and additional resource links ASDA and ADA members can go to ADA.org's homepage and click on "Insurance Matters" under the "Dental Professionals" section.

Additional insurance and risk management resources on ADA.org include:

- A Dental Professional Liability Insurance Glossary
- National Practitioner Data Bank
- Risk Management and Law & Ethics Article Libraries

More Information

Council on Members Insurance and Retirement Programs (CMIRP)
800.621.8099, ext. 2885

Medical Insurance

ASDA offers a group health insurance plan through UnitedHealthcare Student Resources. The UnitedHealthcare **Student** Resources in conjunction with ASDA, is a health and accident insurance program for pre-doctoral members and their dependents. The ASDA Student Injury and Sickness Plan provides choices in coverage levels, deductibles and payment options. The plan also offers flexible effective dates and guaranteed acceptability.

In addition, ASDA offers **UnitedHealth Allies® Discount Dental and Vision Plans (& More)** available through a partnership of UnitedHealthcare Student Resources. Although not insurance, the UnitedHealth Allies discount program provides up to 50% savings for a variety of healthcare services and products including dental, vision and wellness.

For more information, visit www.asdanet.org or call ASDA at 800.621.8099, ext. 2795.

After graduation you may wish to contact your state or local dental society to determine what primary health insurance programs they endorse. Links to these programs and additional resources for purchasing health benefits may be found on ADA.org or by calling the Council on Members Insurance and Retirement Programs at 800.621.8099, ext. 2885.

Auto and Homeowners/Renters Insurance

Your car is a significant investment for you! ASDA members enjoy low auto insurance rates offered by GEICO Preferred Auto Insurance, and many ASDA members will qualify for an extra discount. For more information about discounted rates and a free estimated insurance rate for your own auto, please call 800-368-2734.

GEICO also offers homeowners, renters and condominium insurance for ASDA members through non-affiliated insurance companies and secured through Insurance Counselors Inc., the GEICO Property Agency, doing business as GEICO Insurance agency in CA, MA, MI, NJ, NY, OK, SD, and UT.

Please note, not available for international members.

Need Additional Assistance?

For information about ADA-sponsored group insurance plans, please call Great-West Life at **866.607.5338** visit www.insurance.ada.org or e-mail ada@gwl.com. For ASDA-sponsored plans, please call 800.621.8099, ext. 2846 or visit www.asdanet.org.