

## Checking Out Disability Insurance Policies

1. What company is issuing this policy?
2. How do A.M. Best, Duff & Phelps, Moody's, Standard & Poor, and Weiss rate this company? (The company or agent can provide you with this info.)
3. Is the policy noncancelable? (A noncancelable policy guarantees renewability at a fixed premium.)
4. Is the policy guaranteed renewable? (A guaranteed renewable policy guarantees that you have the right to renew the policy but the premiums may increase.)
5. Are the premiums guaranteed?
6. What are the policy's annual premiums?
7. Does the policy provide own occupation protection? If so, for how long?
8. Does the policy require the continuing care of a physician?
9. If I'm able to return to work on a part-time basis, will the policy continue to provide me with some sort of partial or residual benefits?
10. Do I have to be totally disabled before I would be eligible to receive partial disability benefits?
11. How is the degree of disability determined? Is it based on a loss of earned income or a reduction in hours worked?

12. How is earned income defined? (It should include salaries, bonuses, commissions, and any other form of earned income.)
13. How is the actual benefit determined? The immediate 12-month period preceding disability or some other calculation?
14. If I'm receiving benefits, will my benefits be adjusted for inflation?
15. Can I increase my monthly benefits in the future?
16. Can I increase my monthly benefits in the future, regardless of my insurability?
17. For how long are benefits paid?
18. What is the waiting period before disability benefits begin?
19. Is there a waiver of premium rider (if you become disabled, you no longer have to pay the insurance premiums as long as you continue receiving benefits) available?
20. Does the policy have some sort of rehabilitation benefit?
21. What is the maximum monthly benefit for which I'm eligible?
22. What are the policy's exclusions?
23. Will any pre-existing health conditions that I may have be excluded from coverage? If so, for how long?

24. Does the policy have a Social Security rider? (If it does have a Social Security rider, a supplemental benefit is paid equivalent to the Social Security disability benefits if they're denied. In the extremely unlikely event that you actually receive Social Security disability benefits, your personal disability insurance policy won't have to pay as much benefit, and therefore your premiums will be lower than a policy without the Social Security rider.)

25. Additional comments and observations: