

## Group Universal Life Insurance - Frequently Asked Questions

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## 1. Definitions

### 1.1 What is Group Universal Life (GUL) Insurance?

State GUL Insurance, administered by Securian Financial is a type of permanent life insurance with the option for tax-deferred cash accumulation through a cash value account. GUL Insurance offers flexible protection and is an excellent option for enhancing a family's overall financial security. This coverage will help protect the family against the unexpected loss of a member's life and income.

### 1.2 What is the Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) Benefit?

The AD&D benefit pays for loss of life or limb in addition to GUL insurance in the event of a GUL member's accidental death or dismemberment. It is often referred to as *double indemnity* insurance. Individuals enrolled in GUL Insurance are automatically provided with AD&D coverage to age 70, unless they become totally disabled and approved for the [Premium Waiver Benefit](#) (i.e. AD&D coverage will terminate upon the commencement of the Premium Waiver Benefit).

The amount of AD&D coverage payable is based on the type of loss and the amount of insurance a member has in effect at the time of an incident. The amount of insurance payable excludes additional contributions, if applicable, to the optional Cash Value Account. Visit the [SBO website](#) for more information on the AD&D benefit.

**Navigation:** *Select your group > Select the Life Insurance tile*

## 2. Eligibility

### 2.1 Employee

Previously employed State of Delaware and DSWA individuals are eligible to continue coverage if they were a benefit-eligible employee and were enrolled in the GUL Insurance immediately prior to terminating employment or retiring. Coverage must be elected within **31 days** following the final date of employment.

### 2.2 Spouse

A legal spouse.

### 2.3 Dependent Child(ren)

View the Dependent Child(ren) Eligibility document located on the SBO website at [de.gov/statewidebenefits](https://de.gov/statewidebenefits). **Navigation:** *Select your group > Select the Life Insurance tile*

### 3. Coverage Following Employment

#### 3.1 What happens to my coverage if I am no longer employed in a benefit eligible position?

Individuals enrolled in GUL Insurance but who are no longer employed in a benefit eligible position may take advantage of continuation options through Securian Financial. Visit the SBO GUL website at [de.gov/statewidebenefits](https://de.gov/statewidebenefits) for further details. **Navigation:** *Select your group > Select the Life Insurance tile*

#### 3.2 How do I elect to continue my GUL Insurance coverage?

Once an employee terminates employment or retires, Securian Financial will send them a notice that premiums are no longer being received via payroll deduction. Within the notice employees are provided a bill with the amount of their new premiums owed and instructions on how to pay for coverage to continue enrollment.

Securian Financial must be notified of the desire to continue coverage within **31 days** of the employee's final date of employment. **It is the employee's responsibility to follow up with Securian Financial and make direct payments should they wish to continue coverage.** To request to continue coverage or for assistance in setting up payments to Securian Financial employees are advised to call 1-877-215-1489.

#### 3.3 How do I cancel my GUL Insurance coverage?

GUL members wishing to surrender coverage may check the "surrender box" on the Payment Coupon provided in the notice Securian Financial sends following the end of employment. They should then sign the document and return the coupon to Securian Financial. For questions regarding cancellation of coverage employees should call Securian Financial at 1-877-215-1489.

### 4. Beneficiary Designations

#### 4.1 How do I designate or change my beneficiary(ies)?

A designation form will need completed to update beneficiary information. GUL members may request a designation form at any time by contacting Securian Financial at 1-877-215-1489.

#### 4.2 What happens if I do not designate a beneficiary?

If a beneficiary is not designated or alive at the time of a GUL member's death, benefits are paid according to the policy contract and in order of priority. For further details on the importance of beneficiary designations, visit the [SBO website](#). **Navigation:** *Select your group > Select the Life Insurance tile*

#### 4.3 How will my beneficiary(ies) know that I am enrolled in GUL Insurance?

GUL members must communicate their enrollment in GUL Insurance to their beneficiary(ies). It is advised that the member notifies their beneficiaries on the location of their Certificate of Coverage for reference purposes.

Beneficiary(ies) may also contact Securian Financial at [lifebenefits@securian.com](mailto:lifebenefits@securian.com) or by telephone at 1-877-215-1489 for enrollment information.

## 5. Coverage

### 5.1 What is the Accelerated Benefit and how does it work?

The Accelerated Benefit provides payment to an individual enrolled in GUL Insurance and with a terminal condition\* either the full or partial amount of their death benefit prior to their death. It does not include AD&D.

The minimum death benefit that can be accelerated is \$10,000. For a primary GUL member seeking only a portion of their death benefit, they may choose to accelerate a payment, providing the remaining amount is at least \$25,000. They may apply for a subsequent accelerated benefit at any time. Additional satisfactory evidence may be requested by Securian Financial to ensure the member meets all requirements to receive the benefit.

To access this benefit contact Securian Financial directly at 1-877-215-1489.

*\*A terminal condition is a condition caused by sickness or accident which directly results in a life expectancy of twelve months or less.*

### 5.2 What happens to my coverage if I become disabled while actively employed?

The State of Delaware's GUL Insurance includes a feature to protect disabled employees, the [Premium Waiver Benefit](#). If an employee becomes totally disabled while enrolled in GUL Insurance they will not be billed for employee-only life insurance premiums for as long as they are deemed totally disabled or until they attain age 65, whichever occurs first. For additional information on this benefit, visit the [SBO GUL webpage](#).

## 6. Cash Value Account

### 6.1 What is the Cash Value Account and how does it work?

Funding a cash value account can help to accumulate savings, which can be used to pay for a college education, supplementing retirement income, and much more. The Cash Value Account consists of additional premiums paid into a GUL policy. The additional premiums grow at a minimum rate of four percent. A three percent administrative charge is deducted from each contribution into the Cash Value Account. GUL members may also make lump sum contributions, start, stop, or change their contributions at any time.

### 6.2 Can I access the premium in my Cash Value Account?

Yes, through policy loans or cash withdrawals. Loans are available at a low net rate of two percent. GUL members may make partial withdrawals of at least \$100 from the Cash Value Account.

## 7. Coverage Costs

### 7.1 What are the monthly GUL and AD&D rates?

Plan rates are located on the SBO GUL website at [de.gov/statewidebenefits](http://de.gov/statewidebenefits). **Navigation:**  
*Select your group > Select the Life Insurance tile*

### 7.2 Who is responsible for the cost of coverage?

Individuals enrolled in GUL Insurance are responsible for the total cost of coverage. Individuals no longer employed in a benefit eligible position are placed in Securian Financial's direct bill system and may make payments directly to Securian Financial. The frequency of direct bill premium payments is initially quarterly, but can be changed to annual, semi-annual, or monthly, dependent on an individual's preference. For additional information on direct bill payments contact Securian Financial directly at 1-877-215-1489.

## 8. Filing a Death Claim

### 8.1 How is a death claim filed for a GUL member, spouse, or child(ren)?

Claims may be filed by contacting Securian Financial directly at 1-877-215-1489. A Beneficiary Statement form will need completed. Securian Financial will provide this form to the beneficiary. A return mailing address is referenced on the form.

## 9. Modified Endowment Contract (MEC)

### 9.1 What is an MEC?

An MEC is an insurance contract for which the "premiums" plus voluntary contributions to a Cash Value Account exceed a limit calculated in accordance with IRC Section 7702A. For questions regarding an MEC, contact Securian at [lifebenefits@securian.com](mailto:lifebenefits@securian.com) or by telephone at 1-877-215- 1489.

## 10. Other Services

### 10.1 What is Beneficiary Support through Empathy?

Available at no cost for beneficiaries, Empathy provides on-demand tools and human support to help loved ones save valuable time and get back on their feet following the loss of a loved one. This additional layer of care can help ease their burden, so beneficiaries can focus on what matters most.

- Dedicated Care Manager at the ready
- Personalized care plan
- Probate and estate settlement guidance
- Time-saving tools

- Emotional and grief resources

Beneficiaries will be invited to take advantage of this program via the app or website during the claims process. They can visit [join.empathy.com/securian](https://join.empathy.com/securian) or download the Empathy app and use access code: emp-securian.

## **11. Contact Information**

### **11.1 Who do I contact if I have any questions?**

GUL members may contact Securian Financial at [lifebenefits@securian.com](mailto:lifebenefits@securian.com) or by telephone at 1- 877-215-1489 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday. Members may also contact the [SBO Customer Service Team](#) by telephone at 1-800- 489-8933 between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm (ET), Monday through Friday, or by email at [benefits@delaware.gov](mailto:benefits@delaware.gov).