

## **Insurance**

### **Center for Medicare Advocacy**

The Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc., established in 1986, is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan law organization that provides education, advocacy and legal assistance to help older people and people with disabilities obtain access to Medicare and quality health care. For more information, go to: <http://www.medicareadvocacy.org/>.

### **Finding Lost Insurance Policies**

MIB, Inc., offers information, suggestions, and a “Policy Locator Service” that helps executors, administrators, or next-of-kin identify lost or unknown life insurance policies for deceased individuals. To read more about this service, go to: [http://www.mib.com/facts\\_about\\_mib.html](http://www.mib.com/facts_about_mib.html).

Several major life insurance companies have established online lost policy finders. If you have reason to believe a policy may have existed with one of these insurers, you can use these websites to search directly by company at no cost. To view these company names and their policy finder Internet pages, go to: [http://www.mib.com/lost\\_policy\\_finders.html](http://www.mib.com/lost_policy_finders.html).

### **Glossary of Insurance Terms**

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners website has a very detailed glossary of insurance terms: [http://www.naic.org/consumer\\_glossary.htm](http://www.naic.org/consumer_glossary.htm).

### **Insurance Information Institute**

Since 1960 the Insurance Information Institute has had a single mission: To improve public understanding of insurance—what it does and how it works. If you would like to understand the basics of insurance and read articles about insurance related topics, go to: <https://www.iii.org/insurance-basics>.

## **Insurance Products**

Life Insurance – Accelerated Death Benefit: Terminal Illness Insurance (known as Accelerated Death benefit in North America) pays out a capital sum if the policyholder is diagnosed with a terminal illness from which the policyholder is expected to die within 12 months of diagnosis, by a physician who specializes in that illness or condition. Terminal Illness Insurance is a form of insurance that is often added to a life insurance policy or a mortgage life insurance policy by the insurance company issuing the policy. Terminal Illness Insurance is not available as a separate insurance policy.

Most insurance companies offer policies with accelerated benefit options and they are usually added to universal life insurance policies or other permanent life insurance policies. Some insurers are beginning to offer them with term life insurance policies sold to individuals. Accelerated benefits may also be available through group term or group permanent life insurance policies. Accelerated benefit options are usually offered when you purchase a new life insurance policy, but many insurers will also add them to existing policies. Contact your insurance company for additional information. For helpful information about buying insurance, go to the following Indiana Department of Insurance website: <http://in.gov/idoi/2576.htm>.

Another good website to learn about insurance is located at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Types\\_of\\_insurance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Types_of_insurance)

## **National Flood Insurance (FEMA)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website has detailed information about flood insurance. For example:

- How to buy it or renew it
- Why you need it
- The Flood Map Service Center
- How to reduce your cost
- How to file a claim, and a toll free help line

For more information go to: <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.

## **State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs)**

The State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) provide free, in depth, one-on-one insurance counseling and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries, their families, friends, and caregivers. SHIPs operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and are grant-funded projects of the federal U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), [U.S. Administration for Community Living \(ACL\)](#).

SHIPs answer questions about Medicare and assist people in obtaining coverage through options that include the Original Medicare program, Medicare Advantage (Part C) Plans, Medicare Prescription Drug (Part D) Plans, and programs designed to help people with limited incomes pay for their health care, such as Medicaid, the Medicare Savings Program, and the Low-Income Subsidy.

SHIPs also help people compare Medicare Supplemental (Medigap) insurance policies and explain how these and other supplemental insurance options -- such as insurance plans for retirees -- work with Medicare.

In addition, SHIPs provide information on long-term care insurance and, when needed, refer beneficiaries to agencies such as the Social Security Administration and local Medicaid offices for additional assistance. To locate the SHIPs in your state and for additional information, go to: <https://www.shiptacenter.org/>.

### **Umbrella Insurance**

Do you need an umbrella insurance policy to protect your assets if you are sued? To get helpful information about this insurance, go to: <https://www.bankrate.com/insurance/homeowners-insurance/umbrella-insurance/>.