



Optional Life for Spouses

Important information about optional benefits for CAEAS-ECAB members

As a CAEAS-ECAB plan member, you have access to optional benefits. You pay 100% of the cost of these optional benefits.

What coverage is available?

If you had spousal optional life coverage under your school board plan, the coverage has been grandparented to the new plan. School board plan insurers transferred this data to Cowan. Benefit costs are payable as of June 1, 2018.

Q: How much can be purchased?
\$10,000 to \$500,000 (in units of \$10,000)

Q: How much can my spouse purchase without providing proof of good health?
All new amounts are subject to proof of good health.

Q: When does coverage terminate?
When your spouse reaches age 65 or when you retire, whichever occurs first.

Q: How much will it cost me per month?

The rates are based on age, gender and smoking status. The rates are found in the optional life brochure located on Cowan's Member Access Site.

Note that the Retail Sales Tax of 8% is in addition to the rates in the brochure.

Calculation example:

Female, non-smoker, 43 years old requesting \$250,000
 $\$250,000 \div \$1,000 \times \$0.06 = \$15.00 + 8\% \text{ tax} = \$16.20/\text{month}$

Q: How do I pay the monthly spousal optional life costs?
The monthly costs are paid through payroll deductions.



Q: How do I make a request?

Send an email to Cowan at one-t@cowangroup.ca.

Include the following details in your email:

- Certificate number
- Member's first and last name
- Spouse's first and last name, gender and date of birth
- School board
- Completed evidence of insurability form (page 1 to 7). The form can be submitted by email or uploaded from Cowan's Member Access Site..

The beneficiary for the spousal optional life benefit is the member. No separate beneficiary designation form is required.

Q: When and how will I be notified if my request was approved?

Great-West Life will require 4 to 6 weeks to review the request and provide you with written confirmation of the decision. If approved, Cowan will update your member record. You will be able to view your coverage on Cowan's Member Access Site.

Q: When is the deadline to enrol in the spousal optional life benefit?

There is no deadline to make optional life requests.

Q: How do I change my spouse's smoking status?

If your spouse currently has optional life coverage, you can view your spouse's current smoking status on your group benefit statement available on Cowan's Member Access Site.

- To change to smoker, email Cowan at one-t@cowangroup.ca. Include your certificate number, first and last name. Confirm the change is for your spouse.
- To change to non-smoker, your spouse must complete the non-smoker form available on Cowan's Member Access Site and upload the form to Cowan.

If you have already sent in a request, please be assured that we are working on your request and will be contacting you shortly to provide confirmation.



Questions:

Call Cowan at 1-888-330-4010

Email: one-t@cowangroup.ca

Mail: 700-1420 Blair Place, Ottawa,
ON K1J 9L8