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Life insurance provides a benefit to the beneficiary in the event of your death. Policy features may offer cash values, waiver of premium payments in the event of disability, and accelerated death benefit in the event of a terminal illness. There are 2 major types of Life Insurance.

1. **Term Life Insurance** – Term life insurance furnishes life insurance protection for a limited number of years. The face amount of the policy is payable only if the insured's death occurs during the stipulated term.
 - a. **Renewability** means the policy contains an option that permits the policy owner to continue the policy for a limited number of additional periods of protection to a stipulated termination age.
 - b. **Convertibility** means the policy may be exchanged for another type of insurance at any time up to the expiration of the conversion terms of the policy.
2. **Whole Life Insurance** – Provides for the payment of the face amount upon the insured's death regardless of when death occurs. The face amount payable and premium payments generally remain level throughout the premium payment period, which is assumed to be to age 100. Future mortality costs are prefunded through the accumulation of cash values, which must build to equal the policy face amount, usually by age 100. Cash values are available to the policy owner at any time by surrendering the policy, or by obtaining a loan from the insurer for amounts up to the cash value. The two most common forms of whole life insurance are:
 - a. **Ordinary** – Can be either guaranteed cost or participating. Both afford permanent protection at a relatively modest annual outlay. All elements of a guaranteed cost policy are set at policy issue and will not change throughout the life of the policy. Participating policies are generally priced more conservatively, especially with respect to future interest rates, and may demonstrate a higher initial premium than guaranteed cost. Over time, the impact of a participating policy's excess interest credits returned in the form of dividends will tend to make its long-run cost comparable or better than an otherwise similar guaranteed cost policy.
 - b. **Universal** – Flexible-premium, adjustable-death benefit life insurance. Policy owner may choose the amount and timing of future premium payments after an initial required minimum. Future required premiums to maintain the original face amount will depend upon the amount and timing of premium payments, and the actual mortality, interest and expenses experienced by the insurance company.

When shopping for Life Insurance, consider asking:

- What are the differences between Term, Universal Life, and Whole Life?
- Are Term Insurance Premiums guaranteed and how often may they increase?
- How long will a Universal Life policy stay in force if premiums are paid?
- Does the policy include Waiver of Premium or Accelerated Death Benefits?
- What riders are available?
- Are benefits available until death up to any age?

Coverages have exclusions and limitations that may affect benefits payable. See your insurance representative for complete details.

The following companies are currently selling Life products:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| American Family Life Assurance Co (AFLAC) | New York Life Insurance Co |
| Colonial Life & Accident | Transamerica Life Insurance Co |
| National Teachers Associates Life | |

Click on the insurance company names above to link to the vendor's website offering information specific to State of Louisiana Employees. (Some vendor's did not provide this office with a link/website specific to State of Louisiana Employees.)