

Physician Disability Insurance

Carrier Comparison

Illustrative starting points, not a recommendation to buy from any specific carrier. Always compare underwritten quotes from more than one source.

Guardian

Own-occ: Strongest (Enhanced True Own-Occ)

Cost tier: Highest of the five

Comdex: 100

Notable rider: Enhanced True Own-Occupation Rider

Considers a proceduralist totally disabled if they can't perform the procedures generating more than 50% of their income, even while working in another capacity.

Often cited as the most expensive of the five; residency Guaranteed-Standard-Issue program has broad training-program reach.

Principal

Own-occ: Standard true own-occ + transitional benefit

Cost tier: Mid-range

Comdex: 90

Notable rider: Transitional Own-Occupation Benefit

Historically known for preferential rates for female physicians — discontinued for individual attending-physician policies as of January 1, 2021.

That advantage may still apply in some multi-life or group arrangements. Also bridges pre- and post-disability income if you have to change careers.

MassMutual

Own-occ: Uncommon lifetime own-occ rider

Cost tier: Mid-range

Comdex: 98

Notable rider: Lifetime Own-Occupation Rider

Most competitors' true own-occupation protection reverts to any-occupation after around 24 months — MassMutual's can extend for life.

Own-occupation is an add-on rider here, not built into the base contract. Also offers a student-loan-repayment rider.

The Standard

Own-occ: True own-occ via specialty 'deeming' rider

Cost tier: Mid-range

Comdex: 84

Notable rider: Family Care Benefit

Distinctive Family Care Benefit lets you claim if you step away to care for a seriously ill family member — not available in California or New York.

Capped at twice over the life of the policy, with a combined total of 6x the monthly benefit across all claims.

Ameritas

Own-occ: True own-occ, strong residual terms

Cost tier: Most affordable of the five

Comdex: 83

Notable rider: Nondisabling Injury Benefit

Often cited as the most favorable partial-disability structure among the five, but carries the lowest financial-strength rating of the group.

Nondisabling Injury Benefit covers treatment costs for injuries that don't rise to a disabling event.

Comdex is an industry-standard financial-strength composite score (0-100). Cost tier reflects relative positioning among these five carriers, not an absolute price quote. Not insurance, financial, tax, or legal advice -- MedDisabilityCalc is not a licensed insurance agency.

Run your own coverage-gap numbers free at meddisabilitycalc.com/calculator