



Business Insurance Employee Benefits Auto Home

PORTABILITY AND CONVERSION (WHOLE LIFE) COMPARISON

A simple way to compare your options

Your group life insurance from The Hartford is valuable financial protection for you and your family. If your coverage offered through your employer ends, wouldn't you want to consider continuing your coverage?

Fortunately, your employer's plan includes a Conversion and a Portability option. This means you'll have a choice of "converting" your coverage to an individual whole life policy and/or "porting" your term coverage (up to a set limit) to another group term policy.

We help make your options clear

To decide whether Portability or Conversion is the right choice for your personal situation, you need to understand the differences. And to help you see the differences more clearly we've outlined the differences with our side-by-side comparison below.

Weigh your options and decide

Compare The Hartford's Portability and Conversion options for continuing your life insurance coverage. Then, you can decide what makes sense for you and your family. And please be aware that time is of the essence in making your decision. Typically you'll have just 31 days from the date your coverage reduces or ends to make your decision. For more information, contact your Benefits Administrator or call The Hartford toll-free at 1-877-320-0484.

Take Action to Enroll

Yes! Generally, you must return the completed Notice of Continuation form to The Hartford within 31 days after your group coverage terminates or 15 days from the date the employer signs the form, whichever is later. (*This period may be limited to 91 days after group coverage terminates.) Upon receipt of the form, The Hartford will verify eligibility and provide coverage information, premium rates, and application form(s). You must complete and return/submit the application with the required premium within the time specified in order for coverage to be active.

An Important note

In the event of any discrepancy between this brochure and the group policy that we've issued to your employer, the terms of the policy apply.

A Conversion and Portability Comparison

Question?	Conversion	Portability
What type of insurance policy will you receive?	When you convert your coverage we'll issue you an individual, whole life policy. It's called a whole life policy because you'll need to pay the premium for your whole life in order for it to remain in effect. The premium for whole life coverage will be more than what we charge under portability. This is because whole life policies build cash value from which you can take loans, as well as they include a cash surrender value. This means if you surrender the policy without claim, you can receive cash or continue your coverage without further premium payments needing to be made. Your amount of continued coverage will be based on how much your cash surrender value could buy. If you're still living at age 121, the policy will terminate and we will pay you the value of the policy minus any outstanding loans, loan interest, or premiums due. If you live in New York or West Virginia a state specific conversion options may be available.	Port Plus: When you port your coverage, we'll issue a certificate of coverage that provides term life insurance only.and accidental death or accidental death coverage in some cases. This type of policy provides protection for a specified period of time. The premiums charged are lower than what you would pay for a Conversion policy. However, no cash value is built up from which you can take loans and you will not receive a cash refund if you surrender the policy without claim. Port Prime: When you port your coverage, we'll issue a certificate of coverage that provides term life and accidental death or term life and accidental death and dismemberment coverage in some cases. This type of policy provides protection for a specified period of time. The premiums charged are lower than what you would pay for a Conversion policy. However, no cash value is built up from which you can take loans and you will not receive a cash refund if you surrender the policy without claim. Port Plus and Port Prime: Premiums are set in five-year age bands. So the cost for ported coverage will increase each time you move to a new age band.
Do you need to answer any medical questions or have a physical exam to continue coverage?	No.	Port Plus: No. Port Prime: Maybe. Depending on the amount of coverage you're looking to port, evidence of insurability may be required for amounts in excess of \$500,000. Please refer to your certificate for the details that apply to your coverage.
Are there any age restrictions?	No.	Port Plus: Yes. In order to be eligible to port your coverage you must be under your normal social security retirement age which is

Can I continue my dependent coverage?	Yes, if your dependent was covered for life insurance when your coverage ends.	determined by the year in which you were born. Port Prime: Yes. In order to be eligible to port your coverage, you must be under the age of 85. Yes, if your dependent was covered for life insurance when your coverage ends or as a result of your death. But please note that in order to port child coverage you or your spouse must also port their own coverage.
When are these options going to be available to you?	You have the right to convert all of your coverage when it ends or reduces for any reason other than a reduction in your annual earnings. However, if coverage ends because the policy itself ends or the policy remains in effect but coverage for the class you belong to has ended, then conversion may not be available. If available, it may be limited to a maximum of \$10,000. Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that apply to your coverage.	Port Plus: You have the right to port your coverage when it ends for any reason other than entering the military on a full-time basis, provided you've previously met the policy's Active at Work definition. You can also port your coverage if membership in an eligible class ends. In all instances you must be under your normal social security retirement age. Port Prime: You have the right to port your coverage when it ends for any reason other than entering the military on a full-time basis or losing coverage due to sickness or injury, provided you've previously met the policy's Active at Work definition. You can also port your coverage if membership in an eligible class ends. In all instances you must be under the age of 85.
Does the policy include coverage for accidents?	No.	Port Plus: No. Port Prime: Yes, the port coverage will include an accidental death rider or an accidental death and dismemberment rider that will pay up to double the amount in the event of an accident.
When are these options available to your dependents?	This option is available to you if your dependent coverage ends or reduces for any reason. It will also be made available to your	This option is available to you if your employment ends or any reason or you are no longer in an eligible class for dependent

	dependents in the event of your	coverage. It will also be made
	death and to your former spouse should your marriage end in divorce or annulment.	available to your dependents in the event of your death.
	If the policy ends or you're no longer in an eligible class, then conversion may not be available. If available, it may be limited to a maximum of \$10,000.	However, portability will not be available to your dependent if they enter the military on a full-time basis or your child reaches the policy's limiting age for dependent child coverage.
	Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that apply to your coverage.	Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that apply to your coverage.
Now that some or all of your or your dependents' group life insurance coverage is ending, what amount can be continued?	In certain situations, conversion may not be available or may be limited to a maximum amount of \$10,000. Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that apply to your coverage. But generally speaking, you will be allowed to convert the full amount of coverage that is terminating or reducing.	Portability may apply to all or a portion of your and your dependents' life insurance coverage. You may continue 50%, 75% or 100% of the amount of insurance that is ending, if the Portability benefit applies to that coverage. Port Plus: Please note, however, that the amount you can continue is generally subject to a maximum. Port Prime: Please note, however, that the amount you can continue is generally subject to a maximum and that plans with higher benefit maximums may include an evidence of insurability requirement to obtain the maximum amount. Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that apply to your coverage.
Is there a minimum	Employee, Spouse or Dependent	Employee and Spouse: \$5,000
amount that can be continued?	Child is \$1,000	Child: \$1,000
Will the rates for the new coverage differ from the group life insurance rates through your employer?	Yes. Your rates will not be the same as they were under the group policy*. Conversion rates per \$1,000 of coverage are based on age and gender at the time the policy is issued to you. However, once issued, rates will not change. Rates are going to be more than the term rates paid by you or your employer and this is because the policy will build cash value over	Yes. Your rates will not be the same as they were under the group policy. Portability group rates per \$1,000 of coverage are based on age and gender at the time the certificate is issued. However, rates are in 5-year age bands. So depending on age at the time of issuances rates could change in as little as one year or a maximum of five years. Rates are also subject to change
		based on the number of deaths

	time which was not the case with your group term coverage. A copy of our current Conversion rates are shown at the end of this compare. * In the states of New York and West Virginia this might not be the case for the first year.	within the pool of persons who have ported their coverage. A copy of our current Portability rates are shown at the end of this compare.
If your policy includes a Premium Waiver provision, can you apply for both conversion and portability if your coverage ends prior to being approved for Premium Waiver?	If premium payments cease while waiting to complete the Premium Waiver waiting period, filing for Premium Waiver and being approved, you can convert your coverage to fill the gap to ensure you remain covered. If after filing for Premium Waiver your claim is approved, then you can return or surrender your policy without claim and we will refund all of the premium you paid for that coverage, with interest.	If premium payments cease while waiting to complete the Premium Waiver waiting period, filing for Premium Waiver and being approved, you cannot port coverage to fill the gap. However, you can convert your coverage. Port Plus: If you apply for and are denied Premium Waiver, then you'll have an opportunity to port coverage. Port Prime: If you apply for and are denied Premium Waiver, portability will not be available; however, conversion will be.
Does the option include an Accelerated Benefit feature for persons who are diagnosed with terminal illness?	No. The Whole Life policy does not include an Accelerated Benefit feature.	Yes. The port policy certificate includes an Accelerated Benefit feature. As such, if a person is diagnosed with a terminal illness and 12 or fewer months to live, then they may immediately apply for up to 80% of their benefit amount. Please refer to your certificate of insurance for the specific terms that
		apply to your coverage.
Will the coverage reduce as the insured ages?	No. Once the policy has been issued, coverage will not decrease.	Port Plus: Yes. Coverage will reduced by 75% when you or your spouse reach age 65.
		Port Prime: Yes. Coverage will reduce by XX% at age 65, XX% at age 70 and by an additional XX% at age 75. Thereafter, coverage will not reduce. (Typically 25% or 35%)
How long can you keep your coverage?	Assuming premium for the coverage continues to be paid when due, the policy will remain in effect until the maturity age if 121. If the insured is still living, the policy cash	Assuming premium for the coverage continues to be paid when due, coverage will remain in effect until the
		Port Plus: The date the insured reaches age 75

	surrender value will be paid to the	Port Prime: The date the
	insured person.	 insured reaches age 99 The insured enters full-time military service The date the group policy for the entire group of people who elect Portability terminates.
Does the option include a suicide exclusion?	Yes. When issued the policy will include a two year suicide exclusion. However, the insured person will receive credit toward that two year period for the period of time they were covered under the group policy prior to converting their coverage. If death is determined to have been caused by suicide no benefit will be paid; however, premium will be refunded and paid	Yes. When issued the policy will include a two year suicide exclusion. The two year period will start on the effective date of the ported coverage. Credit for time covered under the group policy will excluded. If death is determined to have been caused by suicide no benefit will be paid; however, premium will be refunded and paid to your beneficiary.
If I become covered under another group life insurance policy that has been issued by The Hartford, can I keep my converted or ported coverage?	to your beneficiary. Yes, you can keep it, however, if you do become covered under another group life insurance policy issued by The Hartford, any benefit payable under the group policy will be reduced by the amount payable under the conversion policy.	Yes, you can keep it, however, if you do become covered under another group life insurance policy issued by The Hartford, any benefit payable under the group policy will be reduced by the amount payable under Hartford's Portable Trust policy.
If you want to change your coverage amount, is that an option?	Once the policy has been issued neither increases or decreases are allowed.	If you ported 100% of your eligible coverage you may request to reduce it to 75% or 50%. If you originally ported 75% then you can decrease it to 50%. If you originally ported 50%, a reduction is not allowed. Once your ported coverage has taken effect, you can request to reduce the level of coverage in \$1,000 increments, but not below the port minimum of \$5,000. Increases in coverage are not allowed.
How do you request coverage?	When coverage ends or is reduced, contact the Benefits Administrator or your employer's HR Department to obtain the appropriate election form or for additional information.	When coverage ends or is reduced, contact the Benefits Administrator or your employer's HR Department to obtain the appropriate election form or for additional information.
Must you act within certain time frames	Yes, time is of the essence. Generally, you must return your completed application within 31	Port Plus: Yes, time is of the essence. Generally, you must return your completed application

to be eligible for this days of coverage ending or within within 31 days of coverage ending coverage? 15 days of being notified of the right or within 15 days of being notified of to convert your coverage, the right to port your coverage; whichever is later. But in no event whichever is later. But in no event will your application be accepted if will your application be accepted if received by us more than 91 days received by us more than 91 days after coverage ends. after coverage ends. Port Prime: Yes, time is of the Yes, time is of the essence. Generally, you must return your essence. Generally, you must completed application within 31 return your completed application days of coverage ending or within within 31 days of coverage ending 20 days of being notified of the right or within 20 days of being notified of to convert your coverage, the right to port your coverage, whichever is later. But in no event whichever is later. But in no event will your application be accepted if will your application be accepted if received by us more than 91 days received by us more than 91 days after coverage ends. after coverage ends. If conversion is applied for or the If portability is applied for or the application is post-marked more application is post-marked more than 31 days after your Life than 31 days after your Life Insurance terminates, the person Insurance terminates, the person who is applying for conversion must who is applying to port must be be living at that time. We will not living at that time. We will not accept a conversion application on accept a portability application on behalf of a deceased person more behalf of a deceased person more than 31 days after Life Insurance than 31 days after Life Insurance terminates. terminates. What happens if I die During the 31-day period that During the 31-day period that before applying for immediately follows you coverage immediately follows you coverage continued coverage? ending, you will remain insured for ending, you will remain insured for the amount you're eligible to the amount you're eligible to port. convert. Thereafter, you will not be Thereafter, you will not be insured insured unless you've applied and unless you've applied for and have

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have paid premium for conversion

coverage by that time.

paid premium for ported coverage

by that time.