

SSLI Overview

November 2015

Since 1963, the Missouri National Guard Association (MoNGA) has had an SSLI Program—or, State Sponsored Life Insurance Program. A SSLI Program is available in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. Like Missouri, the program in the other states and territories is sponsored by the state Guard association.¹ The general intent of the SSLI Program is to encourage persons to join and remain in the National Guard, ensure the morale and welfare of the Guard, and, simply stated, to take care of soldiers and airmen.

Guard members who elect to take part in the SSLI Program (participation is voluntary) are afforded various levels of life insurance coverage.² Participants have choices about the extent of coverage they desire. Payment for the insurance is deducted from the monthly salaries of program participants. Federal law gives authority for the salary deduction for SSLI Programs.

More narrowly, the Basic SSLI Program provides up to \$25,000 life insurance coverage on Guard members, \$25,000 on spouses, and \$10,000 on children. There is an Enhanced SSLI Program for persons who desire that provides up to \$260,000 on Guard members, \$155,000 on spouses, and \$35,000 on children. Coverage remains the same and monthly rates do not change when a member retires or leaves the National Guard. Coverage is provided until age 70. Coverage is guaranteed and can commence at any time—even after notification of a Guardsman’s mobilization or assignment to a combat zone.

A professional TPA—The Shuey Group, Staunton Virginia—administers the Missouri SSLI Program. The insurance underwriter for the Missouri SSLI Program is AFBA 5Star, Alexandria, Virginia.

¹ In the states and territories, there is also an SGLI Program, or State Guard Life Insurance Program. This program is sponsored by the various state Guard units and is separate and distinct from the SSLI Program. The SGLI Program was begun in 1974.

² Participation in the SSLI Program is voluntary. However, for all persons who are active in the Missouri Guard, the Missouri SSLI Program provides a \$1,000 “no cost” death benefit—even in situations where the Guardsman has declined SSLI coverage.

Missouri is among twenty other states or territories with an SSLI Program administered by The Shuey Group and underwritten by AFBA 5Star.

Questions about the Missouri SSLI Program can be referred to Dr. Joel D. Denney, Executive Director, Missouri National Guard Association (denney@mo-nga.org), telephone 573-819-1353.

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