What is it? The Critical Illness Plan is designed to pay you a lump sum of money immediately if you are diagnosed with major illnesses such as: cancer, heart attack, stroke, major organ failure, Alzheimer’s Disease, kidney failure and coronary artery bypass.

Keep in mind that these, and all illnesses, are covered by all the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) options. Payments from the Critical Illness Plan can be used in any way you choose: to pay your deductibles, co-insurance, and other out-of-pocket medical costs or to pay someone to mow your lawn. It’s entirely up to you.

The plan will also pay you a “wellness benefit” of $50 each year for completing a health screening. Your annual physical and biometric screening under SHBP will qualify you!

How Does It Work?
- You select a benefit of $5,000, $10,000, $20,000, $30,000, or $40,000.
- If you select any benefit for yourself, you may also purchase coverage for your spouse and/or child(ren). You may choose from the same benefit amounts listed above for spouses. For children, you may select $5,000, $10,000, $15,000 or $20,000.
- The cost of the plan is based on your age. Your rate will not change as you get older unless you buy additional coverage, then all your coverage will be purchased at the older age rate.
- All coverage is guaranteed issue meaning there are no medical questions. You may sign up at any open enrollment without medical questions. The only requirement is that the initial diagnosis of the illness take place while you are covered by the plan.

Rules and Limitations
This is just a summary aimed at giving you a simple way to understand the purpose of this coverage and how it works. It is not intended to provide every provision of the Plan. Only the official plan documents govern the operation of the plan.

Other Elements of the Plan
Recurrence Provision: This provision enables you to receive a second, reduced benefit for certain conditions that recur after 365 days.

Be sure to review the complete plan document on the benefits page of our website to learn more!

Tips for Maximizing your Benefit Dollars

This plan should be considered a supplemental plan to SHBP, not a substitute for that coverage.

Since the plan covers the most common major illnesses, and the cost is quite low, it could be used in conjunction with the Bronze HRA Plan option, for example, for folks that want to minimize their premium payment to State Health but still be prepared for a large, unexpected illness.

This plan does not meet your requirement to have health coverage under the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). So you will need to have other medical coverage (like SHBP) to comply with the law.