

NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Policy Number 6Hx17-4.15

TITLE	PAYMENT OF PREMIUM OF GROUP EMPLOYEE INSURANCE
REFERENCE	FS 112.08
HISTORY	Florida Statute Revised 2005 Local Language Added 09/89

112.08 Group Insurance for public officers, employees, and certain volunteers; physical examinations.

(1) As used in this section, the term "local governmental unit" means any county, municipality, community college district, school board, or special district or any county officer listed in s. 1(d) of ART. VIII of the State Constitution.

(2)(a) Notwithstanding any general law or special act to the contrary, every local governmental unit is authorized to provide and pay out of its available funds for all or part of the premium for life, health, accident, hospitalization, legal expense, or annuity insurance, or all or any kinds of such insurance, for the officers and employees of the local governmental unit and for health, accident, hospitalization, and legal expense insurance for the dependents of such officers and employees upon a group insurance plan and, to that end, to enter into contracts with insurance companies or professional administrators to provide such insurance. Before entering any contract for insurance, the local governmental unit shall advertise for competitive bids; and such contract shall be let upon the basis of such bids. If a contracting health insurance provider becomes financially impaired as determined by

the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission or otherwise fails or refuses to provide the contracted-for coverage or coverages, the local government may purchase insurance, enter into risk management programs, or contract with third-party administrators and may make such acquisitions by advertising for competitive bids or by direct negotiations and contract. The local governmental unit may undertake simultaneous negotiations with those companies which have submitted reasonable and timely bids and are found by the local governmental unit to be fully qualified and capable of meeting all servicing requirements. Each local governmental unit may self-insure any plan for health, accident, and hospitalization coverage or enter into a risk management consortium to provide such coverage, subject to approval based on actuarial soundness by the Office of Insurance Regulation; and each shall contract with an insurance company or professional administrator qualified and approved by the office to administer such a plan.

Local Language

The Board of Trustees of Northwest Florida State College makes available group health and life insurance for the exclusive benefit of full-time College employees (including retirees), their spouses, and/or dependents. Financial support of these programs by the Board of Trustees is stipulated annually in the operating budget of the College.

Participation in these programs is a fringe benefit of employment and is conditioned on no other requirement. These benefits are an integral part of the employment package. It is the intent of the Board that they remain subject to continued favorable financial conditions and authorizing legislation.

Modifications which may be made to these programs shall be through active participation and recommendation of a committee of College employees with approval by the Board of Trustees.

Current employees shall be advised of benefits available under these programs at the beginning of each benefit year. New employees will be informed at the beginning of their employment.