



EMPIRE LIFE HAS A GREAT STORY TOTEL

Our Vision

Be the industry leader for service excellence and innovation.











Brand Update – Our new vision, mission and pillars





Our Vision

Be the industry leader for service excellence and innovation.



Our Mission

Provide expertise and intelligent solutions to help Canadians navigate life with confidence.



Brand Pillars

- ∅ Intelligent solutions
- Renowned service
- Culture of integrity and care





Today's agenda



- 1. Why RDSPs?
- 2. RDSP fundamentals
- 3. Empire Life's RDSP at-a-glance
- 4. Key takeaways & next steps

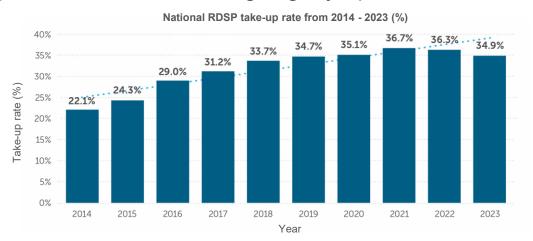






The RDSP opportunity: Historical take-up rate

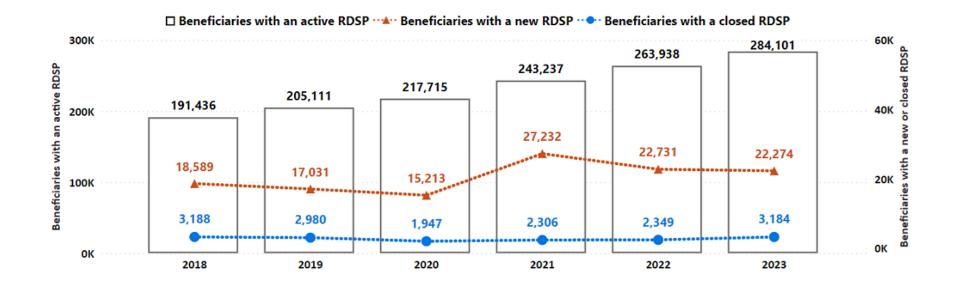
- Introduced in 2008, yet only about 1/3 of eligible Canadians have an RDSP¹²—resulting in a missed opportunity to build tax-deferred long-term savings.
- Take-up rate has been trending slightly upward since 2013.



¹² Source: Employment and Social Development Canada. Canada Disability Savings Program: <u>2023 Annual Report</u>, Table 6: Historical RDSP take-up rate, Canada (2014 to 2023).

Number of plan beneficiaries with an active RDSP has steadily increased from 2018-2023

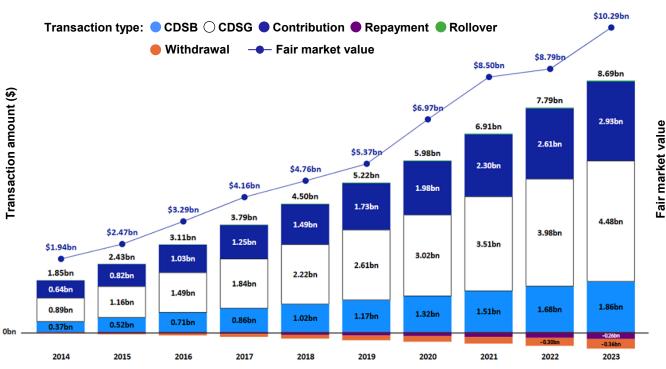




Significant cumulative government grants (CDSG) representing the largest portion of total AUM (\$4.48B)



Description	Amounts (billions \$)
Cumulative contributions	2.93
Cumulative grants (CDSG)	4.48
Cumulative bonds (CDSB)	1.86
Cumulative rollovers	0.03
Cumulative withdrawals	0.36
Cumulative repayments	0.26
Total RDSP assets	10.29





Determining eligibility: First step is DTC approval



- RDSP plan beneficiary must be approved for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC)
 - A non-refundable tax credit to help reduce income tax for persons with disabilities or their families.
 - DTC application requires healthcare provider input and certification.
 - Approval is often limited to five years and may need to be renewed.
- RDSP can remain open if DTC approval expires, however, no new contributions, grants, or bonds can be added until DTC approval is regained.

RDSP eligibility criteria

- Approved for Disability Tax Credit
- 2 Resident of Canada
- Age 59 or less on December 31 of the year applied in⁴
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN)

⁴ Age limit does not apply when an RDSP is opened due to a transfer from an existing RDSP.

RDSP lifetime maximums



Lifetime financial benefits and limits of an RDSP³



\$200,000 Lifetime contribution limit



\$70,000 Lifetime amount of grants available



\$20,000 Lifetime amount of bonds available



Plus tax-sheltered investment growth within your RDSP

³ Maximum amounts available, if eligible.

^{17 |} For advisor use only.

Holder(s) and the plan beneficiary



Holder(s):



Plan Beneficiary



















Funding a RDSP: Several options



- Lifetime maximum of \$200,000, but no annual limits.
- Contribute as a lump sum or ongoing contributions.
- Anyone may contribute, including the holder(s), the plan beneficiary, their family members, and other contributors, but if they are not the holder(s), they must have the holder's written consent.
- Contributions are not tax-deductible but are tax-deferred until withdrawn.
- Contributions can be made until December 31 of the year the plan beneficiary reaches 59.

Age milestones for the plan beneficiary in an RDSP





An RDSP can be opened and contributions made until December 31



Age 60
Lifetime Disability Assistance Payments
(LDAP) must start by December 31



Government grants and bonds help boost savings

Key benefit: A Registered Disability Savings Plan may be eligible for the Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG) and/or the Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB).



The grant is based on contributions and has a matching rate determined by the plan beneficiary's family net income.



The bond is designed for lower income families. It doesn't require contributions to the RDSP.

Rollovers from specified registered retirement plans or an RESP, and transfers from another RDSP, are not eligible for grants but do reduce the maximum lifetime contribution amount of the RDSP.

Canada Disability Savings Grant (CDSG)





- Contributions are required to receive grants
- Annual grant limit of \$3,500
- Lifetime limit of \$70,000
- Carry-forward annual limit of \$10,500 (including new annual grant)
- Uses a matching rate based on income thresholds
- Available until Dec. 31 of the year the plan beneficiary turns 49

2025 Canada Disability Savings Grant matching rate based on family net income		
Family net income ⁷	Contribution amount and grant matching rate	
Less than or equal to the income threshold of \$114,750	\$3 for every \$1 on the first \$500 contributed	
	\$2 for every \$1 on the next \$1,000 contributed	
Above income threshold of \$114,750	\$1 for every \$1 on the first \$1,000 contributed	

Canada Disability Savings Bond (CDSB)





- For low- and modest-income Canadians
- No contributions required
- Annual bond limit of \$1,000
- Lifetime limit of \$20,000
- Carry-forward annual limit of \$11,000 (including new annual bond)
- Available until Dec. 31 of the year the plan beneficiary turns 49

2025 Canada Disability Savings Bond rates based on family net income			
Family net income ⁷	Bond rates		
Less than or equal to \$37,487 (or if holder is a public institution)	\$1,000 per year		
Between \$37,487 and \$57,375	A portion of the \$1,000 is deposited each year. As the income increases, the bond amount paid into the RDSP decreases.		
Greater than or equal to \$57,375	Not eligible for bond.		

Family net income





Until the end of the year plan beneficiary turns 18, family net income is the combined income of their parents or guardians.



At the start of the year the plan beneficiary turns 19, family net income is their income plus their spouse or common-law partner's income.

Tip! Remind clients to start filing the plan beneficiary's tax returns in the year they turn 17 even if there is no income to report. The government uses the tax return from two years prior to the current year to determine the plan beneficiary's family net income.

Case Study: Zoe



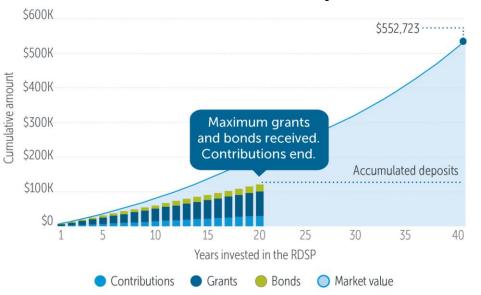
- At age 20, Zoe started investing \$1,500 annually into her RDSP.
- She continues these annual deposits for 20 years when her RDSP has received the maximum amount of grants and bonds.
- She achieves an average annual rate of return of 5%.
- Let's see how much she could accumulate between age 20 and 60 (when she needs to start withdrawals).



Zoe's RDSP accumulates to \$552,723 by age 60



Cumulative amount of contributions, grants, bonds and market value within Zoe's RDSP help to build her savings¹



Private contributions of only \$30,000 were made—not even close to the lifetime contribution amount of \$200,000—so this RDSP could have grown even larger.

¹ For illustrative purposes only. Assumes private contributions were made on January 2, bonds were paid on February 1, and grants were paid on March 1 of each year. No further contributions were made after year 20 (age 39) when the maximum amount of grants and bonds had been received. Assumes an average annual rate of return of 5%. Return is net of fees.



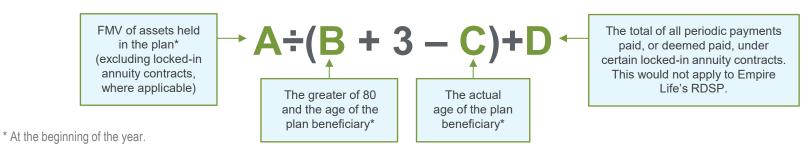
Withdrawals from an RDSP: LDAP



Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment (LDAP)

- Regular withdrawals must begin by December 31 of the year the plan beneficiary turns age 60 but can start earlier.
- Once started, a minimum of one payment per year is required until the money in the RDSP runs out or the plan beneficiary has died.
- Is subject to an annual withdrawal amount based on the LDAP formula.

Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment (LDAP) Formula

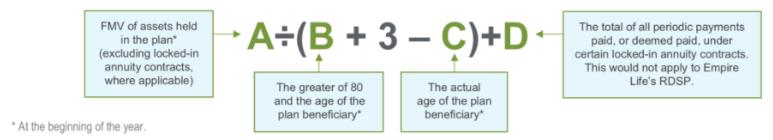


Case Study revisited: Zoe's required LDAP at age 60



When Zoe begins LDAP withdrawals at age 60, the required amount in the first year will be:

Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment (LDAP) Formula



552,723(A) / (80(B) + 3 - 60(C)) + (D not applicable)

= **\$24,031.43** First Year LDAP payment

Withdrawals from an RDSP: DAP



Disability Assistance Payment (DAP)

- A lump sum withdrawal that can be requested at any time, even if Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment withdrawals have started.
- A request must be made for each DAP withdrawal.
- Only allowed if the fair market value of the RDSP after the payment will be more than the Assistance Holdback Amount.
- Empire Life offers DAPs, but not all financial institutions do.

Payments from an RDSP include a portion of the following:

Contributions (including rollovers)

- Grants
- Bonds
- Investment growth

How much can be withdrawn is governed by the composition of the RDSP.

Assistance Holdback Amount (AHA)



- Withdrawals before age 60 may trigger the payback of grants and bonds that have been in an RDSP for less than 10 years.
- The total amount of grants and bonds paid into an RDSP within a 10-year period before a withdrawal is known as the Assistance Holdback Amount.
- The AHA is a 10-year window beginning from the last grant or bond deposit.
- For every \$1 withdrawn, \$3 worth of grants or bonds paid into the RDSP in the previous 10 years must be repaid, up to a maximum of the Assistance Holdback Amount.
- The 3:1 payback is called the Proportional Repayment Rule.

Warning! Withdrawals made before age 60 may trigger repayment of some grant and bond amounts.

Taxation of RDSP withdrawals



Source of savings	Taxable as income upon withdrawal
Private contributions ¹⁰ (excluding rollovers)	No
Grants	Yes
Bonds	Yes
Investment growth	Yes
Rollovers from Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF), Registered Pension Plan (RPP), Pooled Registered Pension Plan (PRPP), Specified Pension Plan (SPP) proceeds from a deceased caregiver parent/grandparent	Yes
Rollovers from Registered Education Savings Plans (RESP) ¹¹	Yes

¹⁰ Private contributions are any contribution not made by the Government of Canada. ¹¹ Only the Accumulated Income Payment (AIP) for an RESP can be rolled over into an RDSP. This is the growth amount accumulated within the RESP.

Shortened life expectancy



When a plan beneficiary has a shortened life expectancy of five years or less, that has been medically certified, there are two options that the holder can choose:

Keep the plan as an RDSP or Designate the RDSP as an SDSP



Registered Disability Savings Plan



Specified Disability Savings Plan

A year that has been medically certified is know as a "**specified year**", whether the plan is an RDSP or SDSP.

An RDSP can become an SDSP when all the following conditions are met:

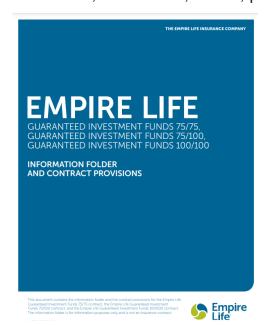
- A licensed medical doctor or nurse practitioner certifies in writing that the plan beneficiary of an RDSP is, in their professional opinion, unlikely to survive more than five years.
- The holder of the RDSP completes an SDSP election form and sends it with the medical certification to Empire Life.
- Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) receives notification of the election from Empire Life.

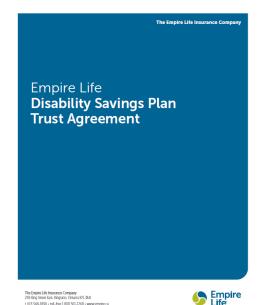


Empire Life's RDSP will be available in GIF 75/75



The RDSP will be offered with the Empire Life GIF 75/75 contract to simplify your administration, including using the same funds, fund codes, MERs, purchase fee options, etc.

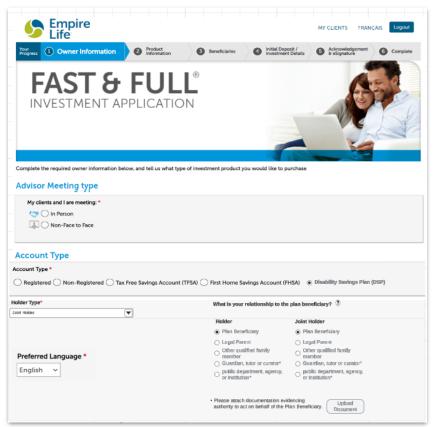


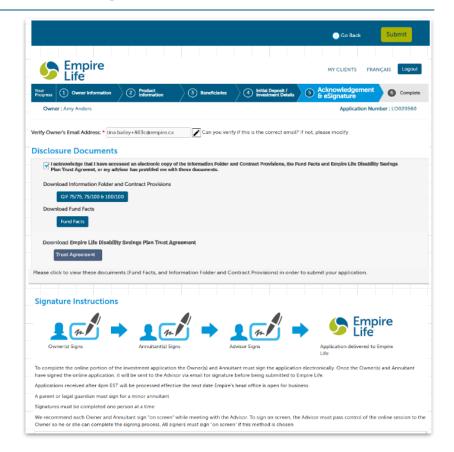






Industry leading digital RDSP application process





Extensive suite of marketing materials











Advisor training & tools

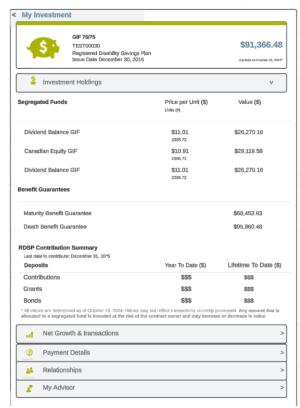
- Bootcamp training sessions on in-depth RDSP topics
- · Advisor website & Portal
- Reference guides and brochures
- FAQ

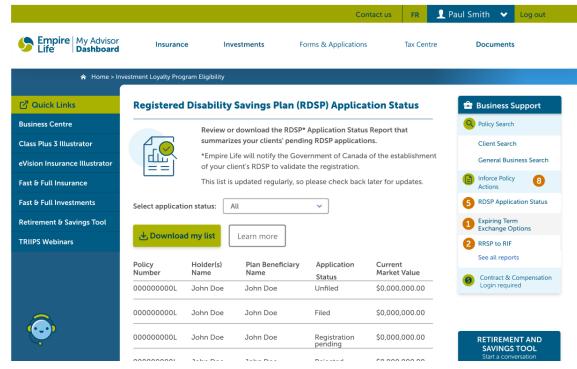
Customer resources & tools

- · Customer website
 - · RDSP videos
- · Customer brochures
 - Customer Portal

Customer and Advisor Portals

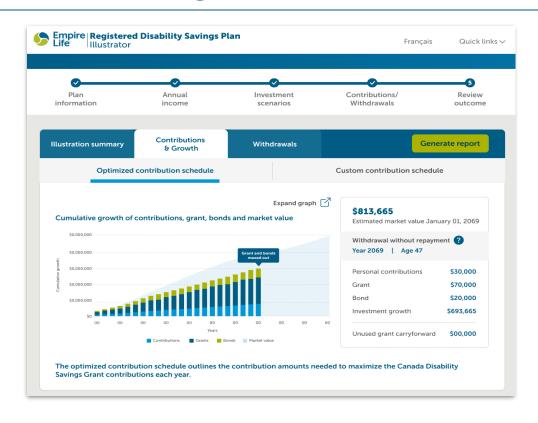








RDSP Illustrator - coming later this Fall



Advisor sales support models





1- Directly selling and servicing RDSPs

- Advisor identifies existing and potential clients who are or may be eligible for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) and would potentially benefit from an RDSP
- Advisor learns intricacies and nuances of the RDSP, DTC, and other disability programs/benefits
- Advisor provides advice to clients on considerations that could impact disability benefits
- Advisor works with the client to apply for the RDSP and service the account
- Advisor works with TREPS experts (where required) on more complex RDSP considerations (Henson Trusts, etc...)



2 - Introduction to Empire Connect RDSP Specialist

- Advisor identifies client who may be benefit from RDSPs
- Utilize the expertise of Empire Connect advisor who specializes in RDSPs to handle all aspects of the RDSP application and ongoing servicing (contributions, grants, bonds, withdrawals, etc.)
- Independent advisor retains ownership of client relationship EC advisor will service the RDSP
- Agreements will be signed to formalize the arrangement
- Independent advisor receives a small annual bonus for the RDSP assets



Benefits of incorporating RDSPs





Build a holistic and rewarding advice practice



"Sticky" assets that can grow quickly



Intergenerational wealth transfer and asset retention



Referral generation and cross-selling opportunities



Become the Advisor of Choice

Key takeaways



1. RDSP features & benefits

- Plan beneficiary must be approved for the **Disability Tax Credit (DTC)** to be eligible
- Powerful grants & bonds, when combined with market growth, can grow savings substantially
- Cross-sell opportunities (TFSA, RRSP, life insurance)

2. Key differentiators for Empire Life's RDSP

- First RDSP available with segregated funds
- Extensive suite of advisor and customer materials
- F&F digital application process, including government forms
- Online Portals for clients & advisors with access to grant/bond information

3. Next steps

- Ensure you are contracted with Empire Life
- Familiarize yourself with the Empire Life GIF product and fund options







Empire Life GIF: Choice of Guarantees & Features

Series	75/75	75/100	100/100
Clients want to:	 Grow investments with benefit of guarantees Protect personal assets from creditors Competitive fees 	Grow investments while protecting their estate Maximize their legacy	Maximize capital and estate protection
Guarantees	 75% maturity benefit guarantee 75% death benefit guarantee 	 75% maturity benefit guarantee 100% death benefit guarantee 	100% maturity benefit guarantee 100% death benefit guarantee .
Resets	Automatic annual death benefit resets until age 80	Automatic annual death benefit resets until age 80	Automatic annual death benefit resets until age 80 2 client maturity benefit guarantee resets per year

New in 2025





- FHSA available
- New funds launched, including:

Fidelity Investments	Vanguard ETF Portfolios	Index funds	Other new funds
Empire Life Fidelity Global Innovators® Empire Life Fidelity Global Income GIF Empire Life Fidelity Global Balanced GIF Empire Life Fidelity Global Growth GIF Empire Life Fidelity Insights™ GIF Empire Life Fidelity Multi-Asset Innovation GIF	Empire Life Vanguard Conservative Income ETF Portfolio GIF Empire Life Vanguard Conservative ETF Portfolio GIF Empire Life Vanguard Balanced ETF Portfolio GIF Empire Life Vanguard Growth ETF Portfolio GIF	Empire Life Nasdaq-100 Index GIF Empire Life U.S. Large Cap Equity Index GIF Empire Life Global Equity Index GIF Empire Life International Equity Index GIF	Empire Life Purpose Global Bond GIF Empire Life American Growth GIF Empire Life Canoe Global Equity and Canoe Portfolios

Get rewarded with the Empire Life GIF Growth Commission bonus



Extended for 2025, the Empire Life GIF Growth

Commission program helps you earn a bonus on deposits into Empire Life GIF segregated funds, including any GIF deposits used to calculate the 2025 RRSP Season

Commission Bonus.





Empire Life GIF Growth Commission Bonus: Your formula for higher commission. Total GIF Deposits x GIF Deposit Bonus Rate x Net GIF Growth Bonus Factor = GIF Growth Commission Bonus

How does the Empire Life GIF Growth Commission Bonus program work?

100% of the bonus is payable directly to advisors to reward them for growing their GIF business and providing outstanding in-force service to existing Empire Life GIF clients. The program rewards successful advisors in two ways:

GIF Deposit Bonus Rate			
A bonus commission is payable based on GIF gross deposits			
Deposits	GIF Deposit Bonus Rate		
\$0-\$99,999	0.00%		
\$100,000-\$499,999	0.25%		
\$500,000-\$999,999	0.30%		
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	0.35%		
\$2,000,000-\$2,999,999	0.40%		
\$3,000,000-\$3,999,999	0.45%		
\$4,000,000-\$4,999,999	0.50%		
\$5,000,000+	0.55%		
·	·		

 $^{^{\}star}$ The Growth Ratio has a floor of 0%, so advisors who have a negative growth ratio will not have a negative Growth Factor.

Net Growth Bonus Factor				
The GIF Deposit Bonus Rate is multiplied by the Net Growth Bonus Factor to determine the total GIF Growth Bonus				
Ratio Formula				
(Gross Deposits – Redemptions) ÷ Gross Deposits				
Net GIF Growth Ratio	Net GIF			
(result of formula)	Growth Bonus Factor			
0%-9%*	100%			
10%-19%	105%			
20%-29%	110%			
30%-39%	115%			
40%-49%	120%			
50%-59%	125%			
60%-69%	130%			
70%-79%	135%			
80%-89%	140%			
90%-99%	145%			
100%	150%			



Empire Life GIF Growth Commission Bonus: Your formula for higher commission. Total GIF Deposits x GIF Deposit Bonus Rate x Net GIF Growth Bonus Factor = GIF Growth Commission Bonus



Robert generated \$4,000,000 in segregated fund deposits into Empire Life GIF contracts in 2025. He also had \$1,700,000 in redemptions from Empire Life GIF contracts. Robert's segregated fund growth bonus will be calculated as follows:

- Deposits = \$4,000,000; resulting GIF Deposit Bonus Rate = 0.50% (based on chart)
- Redemptions = \$1,700,000
- Net Growth Ratio = (\$4,000,000 \$1,700,000) ÷ \$4,000,000 = 57.5%
- Resulting Net GIF Growth Bonus Factor = 125% (based on chart)
- GIF Growth Commission Bonus = \$4,000,000 x 0.50% x 125% = \$25,000



Julia generated \$2,500,000 in segregated fund deposits into GIF contracts in 2025. She also had \$3,000,000 in redemptions from Empire Life GIF contracts. Julia's segregated fund growth bonus will be calculated as follows:

- Deposits = \$2,500,000; resulting GIF Deposit Bonus Rate = 0.40% (based on chart)
- Redemptions = \$3,000,000
- Net Growth Ratio = (\$2,500,000 - \$3,000,000) ÷ \$2,500,000 = -20%*
- Resulting Net GIF Growth Bonus Factor = 100% (based on chart)
- GIF Growth Commission Bonus = \$2,500,000 x 0.40% x 100% = \$10,000

^{*} The Growth Ratio has a floor of 0%, so advisors who have a negative growth ratio will not have a negative Growth Factor.



Questions?



Disclaimer



Segregated Fund contracts are issued by The Empire Life Insurance Company ("Empire Life"). A description of the key features of the individual variable insurance contract and the RDSP are contained in the Empire Life GIF Information Folder and the Empire Life Disability Savings Plan Trust Agreement. Any amount that is allocated to a Segregated Fund is invested at the risk of the contract owner and may increase or decrease in value. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

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