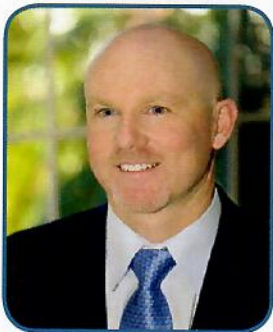


**Disclosure:**

An investor should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses associated with 529 plans before investing. Most states offer their own 529 programs which may provide advantages and benefits exclusively for their residents and taxpayers. The tax implications of a 529 plan should be discussed with a qualified tax advisor.

More information is available in the issuer's official statement. For a free copy of the AllianceBernstein CollegeBound Program Description, visit their website at [www.collegeboundfund.com](http://www.collegeboundfund.com) or call your financial advisor or AllianceBernstein at (888) 324-5057. Please read the Program Description carefully before you invest.

Plan composite performance rankings as of June 30, 2006. Securities are offered through NATIONAL PLANNING CORPORATION (NPC), member NASD, SIPC. Mission Wealth Management, LLC (MWM), NPC, and Alliance Bernstein - are separate and unrelated companies. ■



**RISK MANAGEMENT**  
**Long Term Care Insurance: It's Not Just for Seniors Anymore**  
Brad Tisdale, MS

It's no secret that we are living longer. That's great news to Baby Boomers who view it as living "younger" longer. We have

all heard the phrase "60 is the new 40"; and how about the television commercial featuring actor Dennis Hopper talking to Boomers about retirement, "Shuffle board? I don't think so!" Today's Retirees and Boomers view retirement as an extension of their activities and lifestyle.

So, why has the average age of those purchasing long term care insurance dropped over the last few years from mid 60s to mid 50s? Family experience is still the number one factor urging consumers to invest in long term care coverage. Recent Retirees and Boomers are stepping into the care giving roles for the Greatest Generation and becoming acutely aware of what that requires physically, financially and emotionally. Many wish their parents had coverage to ease the cost and stress.

In addition to family experience, ongoing education has created awareness about what long term care truly is, what it costs and where care is received. Many people falsely perceive long term care to be an issue for the elderly, and they typically envision someone in their 80s and 90s in a nursing home. What consumers need to know however is that long term care is about a period in your life when you are disabled in a chronic way due to an accident, illness, injury, as well as normal aging. It can happen to anyone at any age... even Superman. In fact, 40% of those receiving long term care services are working adults between the ages of 18 to 64<sup>1</sup>. And it's not about being in a nursing home, 87% of the care services are provided to people in their own homes or in Assisted Living<sup>2</sup>.

Long term care is an unplanned, immediate event that impacts cash flow. Most monthly income streams cannot fund an additional \$5,000 to \$7,000 per month (today's cost) for personal and custodial care services; nor are financial portfolios typically capable of generating an additional \$70,000 per year without touching principal or incurring a tax liability. As a result, a long term care event can easily compromise the foundation of your financial plan.

One possible solution is a long term care insurance policy tailored to help meet your specific needs, and the younger you are the less expensive your premiums are. It is a defensive strategy that protects the integrity of your financial plan. Policies provide tax free liquidity (cash flow), not subject to market conditions, to fund your care needs should an accident or illness strike. Of course it makes sense to protect a lifetime of savings, however most people purchase it in order to ensure access to quality care, maintain independence and not burden family and loved ones.

As much as boomers and retirees desire to maintain their lifestyles, they also realize that circumstances can and will unexpectedly change. When care is needed, long term care insurance creates liquidity to comfortably transition into a new lifestyle.

1. Georgetown University Long-Term Care Financing Project "Who Needs Long-Term Care?" May 2003.  
2. Source: "Facts and Trends: The Nursing Facility Sourcebook", American Health Care Association, 2001 & "Older and Younger People with Disabilities: Improving Chronic Care Throughout the Life Span", Mental Health.About.com, January 2, 2002