

# **GREAT EQUITY WELFARE ASSOCIATION (GEWA)**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

**Question:** What is GEWA?

**Answer:** GEWA is a networking group established to serve as a pillar of support for every member of the association and provide the opportunity to promote both individual and collective interests of its members.

**Question:** What are the objectives of GEWA?

**Answer:** Some of the objectives include:

- to bring together all those who passed through Equity Bank to foster good inter-personal and business relationships
- to have a cooperative body that will serve as a business platform for the group where our members can benefit from
- to arrange a group life insurance for members that will help take care of the need of family members of a deceased member
- to provide medical support for members as may be appropriate in time of need

**Question:** Who can join the association?

**Answer:** Any person who worked in Equity Bank Nigeria (EBN) and was never dismissed from the service of the bank that indicates his or her interest to join the association.

**Question:** What are the obligations of a member?

**Answer:** Each member is expected to pay annual dues of N10,000 and participate in the programmes of the association

**Question:** Why do members have to pay annual dues?

**Answer:** To take care of administrative expenses during the year

**Question:** Who is a nominal member?

**Answer:** A nominal member is any member that passed through Equity Bank Nigeria (EBN) and who was never dismissed from the service of the Bank. He has no voting right. He can make contributions but cannot nominate members nor be nominated for any position.

**Question:** Who is a financial member

**Answer:** A financial member is any member that pays his or her annual dues and in good standing. All the privileges and rights accruing to the Association are his or hers. He or she can vote and be voted for and can benefit from the Association.

**Question:** How can a nominal member become a financial member

**Answer:** A nominal member that wants to be a financial member must pay all his or her arrears of annual dues before becoming a financial member.

**Question:** Can a financial member become a nominal member?

**Answer:** Yes, where he fails to pay his annual dues. He will be regarded as a nominal member until all outstanding dues are fully paid

**Question:** Will there still be financial aid to members and their families due to ill-health or death as done in the past

**Answer:** No, members are advised to join the Group Life Insurance Scheme provided for all members

**Question:** Who are members of the board of Trustees

**Answer:** Members of the Board of GEWA Trustees are

- (a) Mr. Sam Obaze
- (b) Mr. Akin Ajayi
- (c) Mr. Iyiola Adegboye
- (d) Mr. Cletus I. Okoro
- (e) Mr. Sunny Idehen

## **GEWA GROUP LIFE INSURANCE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

**Question:** What is the purpose of GEWA Group Life Insurance scheme?

**Answer:** To provide a relief for members who need support for medical assistance and support for their families in case of death. This will also be a relief for GEWA as direct outflow from members or associations general purse may no longer be necessary

**Question:** Who can participate?

**Answer:** All desirous financial members of GEWA

**Question:** When did the scheme commence?

**Answer:** February 8, 2020 with 56 registered members, other members have also joined the scheme

**Question:** Who provides the insurance cover?

**Answer:** Great Nigeria Insurance Company Limited

**Question:** What is the sum assured for each subscriber?

**Answer:** Group Life Assurance with sum Assured of N1,000,000.00 and the following riders:

- (a) Permanent Disability Benefits N500,000
- (b) Medical Benefits N250,000
- (c) Burial Expenses N250,000
- (d) Critical Illness N500,000

**Question:** What is the insurance premium to be paid on an annual basis?

**Answer:** N12,200 per annum

**Question:** Who receives the benefits provided by this cover?

**Answer:** The insured and the designated beneficiaries. In case of permanent disability, medical expenses, and critical illness, the insured gets the benefits while in case of death, the designated beneficiaries will receive the benefits

**Question:** Is there any age limit?

**Answer:** No age limit.

**Question:** Can members in diaspora participate?

**Answer:** Yes

**Question:** Can spouses be accommodated?

**Answer:** Yes, only if both passed through Equity bank

**Question:** Can the sum assured be increased?

**Answer:** Yes, individuals are at liberty to increase their sum assured from N1m to multiples of N1m and pay such premium as determined per every N1m cover

**Question:** How does a member join the scheme?

**Answer:** A member can subscribe to the scheme by completing the Declaration of Health (DOH) form provided by the Insurance company and forwarding to the designated email address.

**Question:** Is there any limit to the number of beneficiaries?

**Answer:** No limit, as stated in the DOH form

## **GEWA COOPERATIVE SOCIETY**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

**Question:** What is the essence of GEWA Cooperative Society?

**Answer:** It is a good means of assisting members to access loans for their businesses and personal needs and a good source of income for GEWA.

**Question:** Who is eligible to be part of GEWA Cooperative Society?

**Answer:** Any financial member of GEWA

**Question:** What guides our activities as a co-operative society?

**Answer:** The Co-operative Law of Lagos state of Nigeria 2003.

**Question:** What is our projected membership of the Cooperative?

**Answer:** 200 members minimum

**Question:** How do you open an account with the Cooperative?

**Answer:** Get an application form for N1,000

**Question:** How much is the membership or registration fee?

**Answer:** a) Joining fee(non-refundable): N15,000 (to be paid during registration)  
b) Shareholding fee: N35,000 (to be paid within 3 months of joining).

**Question:** How do members pay N35,000 each?

**Answer:** Once or by instalments within 3 months

**Question:** What is the essence of the shareholding?

**Answer:** To build up working capital

**Question:** What is the minimum and maximum contribution I can make?

**Answer:** Minimum of N5,000 and maximum of N50,000 monthly.

**Question:** What is the minimum and maximum loan amount I can borrow?

**Answer:** Maximum of 200% of contribution.

**Question:** How long do I have to save to be entitled to the loan?

**Answer:** Six (6) months

**Question:** What tenors are available for the investment deposits and loans as well as applicable interest rates?

**Answer:**

DEPOSITS: 6-8% per annum (subject to the prevailing rates in the market)  
30-90 days - 6% p.a  
91-180 days - 7% p.a  
181-365 days - 8% p.a

LOANS: 1.5% flat per month

**Question:** What is the difference between multi-tenor deposits and monthly savings?

**Answer:** Monthly savings are regular contributions and must be consistent while multi-tenor deposits are not but can be liquidated at maturity.

**Question:** Can a member just dump a large sum of money into the cooperative account as an investment without regular contribution?

**Answer:** No.

**Question:** What percentage of my contribution can a member access as loan?

**Answer:** 200%

**Question:** What is the minimum and maximum loan amount that can be borrowed by an individual?

**Answer:** There is no limit to individual saving but there is a cap as to how much an individual can borrow which is the "single obligor" limit. Using either a percentage of amount available for investment (investible fund) or Total asset of the cooperative as benchmark.

**Question:** Can I still have access to another loan if I have an existing loan?

**Answer:** No

**Question:** Can I withdraw my money while I am still saving?

**Answer:** Yes, for the purpose of loan or upon exit with a 3 months' notice.

**Question:** Do I need to provide a guarantor to access a loan?

**Answer:** Yes, two (2) guarantors who must also be members of the Cooperative.

**Question:** Can someone who serve as a guarantor also secure a loan?

**Answer:** Yes, on the unencumbered balance which must also be guaranteed.

**Question:** What is the duration for loan repayment?

**Answer:** Repayment is maximum of one year, but it can be lower. If it takes 6 months to contribute 100%, repayment of 200% should not exceed 12months plus interest payment. It is necessary to note that granting of loan is not automatic. There will be a credit committee that will review each request. Loan will be administered subject to availability of loanable funds.

**Question:** Will there be penalty if a member defaults in paying back his loan?

**Answer:** 1% of default amount or N500 whichever is higher shall be charged as penalty.

**Question:** Apart from borrowing, what are the other benefits of being a member of GEWA co-operative?

**Answer:** Profit sharing from investment

**Question:** How will the co-operative invest members contributions?

**Answer:** Fixed deposits, treasury bills, money market fund as the market dictates and commodity trading during festive seasons

**Question:** Can a member divest during exit?

**Answer:** Yes

**Question:** How will the value be determined at exit stage?

**Answer:** This will be determined by the Management Committee.

**Question:** Can we expand the scope to include our spouses and or Children?

**Answer:** Yes

**Question:** Is there a connection between subscription to the group life insurance scheme and the membership of the cooperative?

**Answer:** For the GEWA Co-operative to work, members must first subscribe to GNI Group Assurance Scheme to serve as insurance in case of death of any member(s). Where a financial member who is a subscriber to Group Life Insurance and a member of GEWA Co-operative is indebted as a result of loan taken, the first beneficiary of the insurance Claim Payment shall be the Cooperative Society in order to clear the outstanding loan amount.

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