Rules of
Department of Insurance
Division 700—Licensing
Chapter 1—Insurance Producers

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Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
Division 700—Licensing
Chapter 1—Insurance Producers

20 CSR 700-1.010 Agents’ Examination and Licensing Procedures and Standards

PURPOSE: This regulation explains insurance agents’ licensing standards and procedures. This regulation is promulgated pursuant to section 374.045, RSMo and implements sections 375.012–375.027, RSMo.

(1) Examination Procedures.
(A) Before an individual may be licensed to sell certain classes of insurance, s/he must first take and pass an examination testing both the individual’s knowledge regarding the class(es) of insurance the individual proposes to sell and the individual’s knowledge of the insurance statutes and regulations. The examination must be taken and passed prior to submitting an application for a license to the Department of Insurance. The classes of insurance for which an examination is required prior to licensure are life insurance, accident and health insurance, fire and allied lines insurance and general casualty insurance.
(B) The department contracts with an independent testing service, which administers the examinations referred to in subsection (1)(A). In order to take an examination, an individual must register and pay the appropriate fee to the independent testing service designated by the department. Instructions may be obtained from the independent testing service or the Department of Insurance.
(C) Once an individual has passed an examination, s/he has one (1) year from the date of the examination in which to submit an application for licensure to the Department of Insurance. Failure to submit an application within this time period will necessitate the individual taking and passing the examination again before s/he may be licensed.

(2) Application Required.
(A) The application required by section 375.018, RSMo shall be completed on the form approved by the director of insurance by each applicant for licensure before any license is issued.
(B) Each application shall be accompanied by an application fee of twenty-five dollars ($25).
(C) All fees must be paid by money order, cashier’s check, company check or agency check. No fee shall be refundable.
(D) A license will be issued only when the applicant has satisfactorily completed the requirements of sections 375.016–375.018, RSMo and of this regulation and the director has not refused to issue the license pursuant to section 375.141.2, RSMo.

(3) Special Licenses.
(A) Variable Contracts. Any licensed life insurance agent may be licensed to sell variable annuities and variable life insurance policies upon the submission of an application for same and a copy of the agent’s National Association of Securities Dealers registration or Securities and Exchange Commission certification, and the twenty-five dollar ($25) application fee.
(B) Title. A license to sell title insurance shall be issued to any natural person pursuant to section 375.018, RSMo upon receipt of a completed application and the twenty-five dollar ($25) application fee.
(C) Credit. A license to sell credit life, credit accident and health, credit property and credit casualty shall be issued pursuant to section 375.018, RSMo to any natural person upon receipt of a completed application and a twenty-five dollar ($25) application fee.
(D) Travel. A license to write insurance policies covering the risk of travel shall be issued pursuant to section 375.018, RSMo to any natural person upon receipt of a completed application and a twenty-five dollar ($25) application fee.

(4) Natural persons who are not residents of Missouri may be licensed as agents in this state upon receipt of a completed application, the certification of the proper official of the agent’s resident state that s/he is licensed in that state for the lines for which s/he wishes to be licensed in this state and a twenty-five dollar ($25) application fee.

(5) The biennial renewal fee for an agent’s license is twenty-five dollars ($25). An agent’s license shall be renewed biennially on the anniversary date of issuance and continue in effect until refused, revoked or suspended by the director in accordance with section 375.141, RSMo. If the biennial renewal fee for the license is not paid within ninety (90) days after the biennial anniversary date, the license terminates as of ninety (90) days after the biennial anniversary date.

(A) In those situations where a person is licensed as both an agent and a broker, the director will implement a one (1)-time change in the expiration date of the agent’s license such that both licenses will expire on the same date, which date shall coincide with the first renewal date of the broker’s license following the expiration date of the agent’s license.


20 CSR 700-1.020 Activities Requiring Licensure as Insurance Producer

PURPOSE: This rule effectuates and aids in the interpretation of the definition of insurance producer as stated in section 375.012, RSMo by outlining those activities for which licensure is required.

(1) Solicitation of an Insurance Contract.
(A) Unless otherwise specifically provided by section 375.012, RSMo, no person shall solicit an insurance contract in Missouri unless s/he is a licensed insurance company, its employee or an insurance producer.
(B) Solicitation of an insurance contract includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:
1. Disseminating information as to rates secured by reference to a published or printed list or computer database of standard rates;
2. Initiating sales over the telephone other than scheduling appointments with insurance producers to discuss insurance;
3. Advising an insured to purchase additional insurance when receiving payment for existing business;
4. Signing an application or an order for insurance; and
5. Advising a prospective purchaser on the terms of existing coverage.


(C) Solicitation of an insurance contract does not include the following activities:

1. Dispensing brochures and other general information so long as there is no conversation relating to the terms of an insurance contract;

2. Disseminating buyer’s guides, applications for coverage, coverage selection forms, or other similar forms in response to a request from prospective or current policyholders;

3. Receiving and recording information from a policyholder to give to an insurance producer for his or her review and response;

4. Scheduling appointments with insurance producers to discuss insurance.

(2) Negotiation of an Insurance Contract.

(A) Unless otherwise specifically provided by section 375.012, RSMo, no person shall negotiate an insurance contract between an insured and a third party in Missouri unless s/he is a licensed insurance company, its employee or an insurance producer.

(B) Negotiation of an insurance contract includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

1. Advising a prospective purchaser on the premium cost of a proposed contract of insurance, including the quoting of rates;

2. Advising a prospective purchaser on the coverages or terms of a proposed contract of insurance, including counseling as to which coverages to buy;

3. Recommending or independently initiating additions or deletions to an insured’s policy;

4. Explaining the effect of age, health, or other risk-related conditions with respect to purchasing a particular policy;

5. Counseling, urging, or advising any prospective purchaser to buy a particular policy or to insure with a particular company;

6. Explaining, discussing, or interpreting coverage, analyzing exposures or policies, or giving opinions or recommendations as to coverage.

(C) Negotiation of an insurance contract does not include communicating with the policyholder or prospective policyholder in order to obtain factual information necessary for an insurance producer to complete a review.

(3) Sale of an Insurance Contract.

(A) Unless otherwise specifically provided by section 375.012, RSMo, no person shall sell an insurance contract in Missouri unless s/he is a licensed insurance company, its employee or an insurance producer.

(B) Sale of an insurance contract includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

1. Signing binders, certificates of insurance, commitments, endorsements, insurance identification cards and insurance policies;

2. Indicating that the requested coverage is or will be bound or issued; or

3. Issuing certificates of insurance, endorsements, binders, commitments, insurance policies or insurance identification cards except when done by a group policyholder.

(C) Sale of an insurance contract does not include the following activities:

1. Receiving requests for coverage for transmittal to a licensed insurance producer or for processing through an automated system developed and maintained under the supervision of an insurer or licensed insurance producer;

2. Receiving and recording information from an applicant or policyholder and preparing an application for insurance pursuant to instructions from and for the review of an insurance producer;

3. Obtaining underwriting information from credit agencies, the Department of Revenue, and other insurance agencies and companies;

4. Receiving and recording information from an applicant or policyholder and preparing an application for an insurance producer’s review and signature, all binders, certificates, endorsements, identification cards, or policies pursuant to instructions from the insurance producer;

5. Receiving premiums at the recorded place of business where the payment is being made on a binder, endorsement, or existing policy.

(4) Duty to Have Insurance Producer at Each Place of Business.

(A) Each place of business of an insurance producer must contain the principal office of at least one (1) licensed insurance producer.

(B) A licensed insurance producer shall be held responsible for all insurance-related activities performed by an unlicensed individual under the supervision of that insurance producer.

(5) Discipline for Violation. The director of the Missouri Department of Insurance may institute disciplinary action for violations of this regulation in accordance with the provisions of section 375.141, RSMo and any other applicable law.


20 CSR 700-1.030 Certification Letters Submitted With Insurance Producer’s License Applications

PURPOSE: This regulation provides the definition of a certification letter and aids and effectuates licensing standards and procedures as outlined in section 375.017.2, RSMo.

(1) If the home state of an applicant for a nonresident license in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Producer Database, the department, through the Producer Database, will verify the applicant’s licensing status.

(2) If the home state of an applicant for a nonresident license does not participate in the NAIC Producer Database, the applicant must submit a certification letter certifying that the producer is licensed and in good standing in that state. The certification letter must include the signature of the head of that resident state’s insurance regulatory agency and his/her official seal.

(3) A certification letter submitted with an application for a nonresident license must be dated no earlier than six (6) months prior to the date the application is received by the Missouri Department of Insurance.

(4) Failure to submit a properly dated certification letter will cause all application materials to be returned to the insurance producer.


20 CSR 700-1.040 Clearance Letters

PURPOSE: This regulation provides the definition of a clearance letter and aids and effectuates licensing standards and procedures as outlined in section 375.017.2, RSMo.

(1) Definition. Clearance letter as used in this rule is a statement from another state certifying that the insurance producer held, within one (1) year next preceding the date of application, the same kind of license as applied for in this state. The statement also includes the signature of the head of the insurance regulatory agency of the state from whom the insurance producer held the same kind of license and his/her official seal.

(2) A clearance letter submitted with an application for a resident license must be dated no earlier than six (6) months prior to the date the application is received by the Missouri Department of Insurance.

(3) Failure to submit a properly dated clearance letter will cause all application material to be returned to the insurance producer.


20 CSR 700-1.050 Payment of Earned Commissions

PURPOSE: This rule permits some commissions fully earned while licensed to be paid after the termination of licensure. This regulation was promulgated pursuant to authority granted by section 374.045, RSMo and implements sections 375.012, 375.014, 375.016 and 375.017, RSMo.

Commissions Receivable Upon Termination. Where an insurance producer’s license is terminated before the full amount of commissions earned during the period of licensure has been received, the amount earned and not received may be paid.


20 CSR 700-1.070 Coverages Permitted to be Sold Under Credit License

PURPOSE: This regulation describes what coverages may be sold under a limited credit license. This regulation is adopted pursuant to the provisions of section 374.045, RSMo and implements section 375.018.5(4), RSMo.

(1) No credit life insurance may be sold by a licensee exempted from examination by section 375.018.5(4), RSMo which—

(A) Is upon the life of any person other than the debtor(s);

(B) Exceeds the term of indebtedness it secures except as provided in section 385.035, RSMo; or

(C) Exceeds at any time the amount of the indebtedness it secures except when—

1. Caused by voluntary prepayment of a portion of the loan;

2. The insurance is written on agricultural credit transaction commitments;

3. The insurance is written on educational credit transaction commitments; or

4. Insurance is written on residential real estate-secured credit transaction commitments. In addition, no credit life insurance that contains a conversion privilege may be sold by the licensee.

(2) No credit accident and sickness insurance may be sold unless that policy does not exceed the amount or term of the indebtedness it secures issued only upon the health of the debtor.

(3) Property insurance under section 375.018.5(4), RSMo may be written under license provided it meets the following provisions:

(A) Covers only that tangible personal property pledged as collateral for a loan except as otherwise permitted by section 408.140, RSMo;

(B) Provides only physical damage coverage in the case of automobiles, for example, collision and comprehensive;

(C) Provides only the standard fire policy with extended coverage in the case of collateral other than automobiles; and

(D) Provides coverage no greater in amount than the total amount of the underlying indebtedness.

AUTHORITY: sections 374.045, RSMo Supp. 1993 and 375.018.5(4), RSMo 1986. * This rule was previously filed as 4 CSR 190-10.050.
20 CSR 700-1—DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division 700—Licensing


20 CSR 700-1.080 Representatives of Reciprocal and Interinsurance Exchanges to be Licensed

PURPOSE: This regulation requires representatives of reciprocal and interinsurance exchanges to be licensed. This regulation is adopted pursuant to the provisions of section 374.045, RSMo and implements sections 375.012, 375.014, 375.016 and 375.018, RSMo.

(1) All persons who represent interinsurance exchanges or the attorney-in-fact for the exchanges and whose compensation is in part or in whole paid in the form of commissions for the exchanges or the attorney-in-fact for the exchanges to be licensed. This regulation is adopted pursuant to the provisions of section 374.045, RSMo and implements sections 375.012, 375.014, 375.016 and 375.018, RSMo.

(2) This order shall not apply to salaried representatives of the attorney-in-fact.


20 CSR 700-1.090 Fiduciary Duty of Broker

(Rescinded January 30, 2003)


20 CSR 700-1.100 Insurance Brokers

PURPOSE: This regulation explains insurance brokers’ licensing standards and procedures in Missouri.

(1) Prelicensing Education and Examination. Any individual who wishes to be licensed as an insurance broker must successfully complete the prelicensing education requirements, and take and pass an examination. The procedure to be followed is set out in 20 CSR 700-1.010(1).

(A) The director shall waive the examination and the prelicensing education requirements for a person applying for a broker’s license if the applicant is a Missouri resident at the time of application, and provided the applicant has a current resident agent’s license in more than one (1) line of insurance, which license shall have been issued at least five (5) years prior to the date of application for a broker’s license. Only the prelicensing education requirements and examination(s) in those lines for which the applicant has had a resident agent’s license for five (5) years prior to the date of application for a broker’s license will be waived pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(2) Application.

(A) Each applicant for a broker license shall file with the director of the Department of Insurance a completed application on the form prescribed by the director.

(B) Every application shall be accompanied by a one hundred dollar ($100)-application fee pursuant to section 375.076, RSMo. All fees must be paid by money order, cashier’s check, company check, or agency check. Fees are not refundable.

(C) Every nonresident applicant also shall submit a certified statement from the insurance regulatory official in the applicant’s domiciliary state listing the lines of insurance for which the applicant is licensed in that state.

(D) The fee to accompany a nonresident broker license shall be one hundred dollars ($100).

(3) License Renewals.

(A) There will be a biennial renewal fee of one hundred dollars ($100) for a broker license.

(B) If the broker’s license renewal fee is not paid on or before ninety (90) days after the biennial renewal date, the license shall terminate and cannot be reinstated unless and until a late fee of twenty-five dollars ($25) per month or fraction thereof after the biennial anniversary date is paid. Upon payment of the entire amount due under this provision, the license will be reinstated, effective back to the biennial anniversary date.

(C) In those situations where a person is licensed as both an agent and a broker, the director will implement a one (1)-time change in the expiration date of the agent’s license such that both licenses will expire on the same date, which date shall coincide with the first renewal date of the broker’s license following the expiration date of the agent’s license.

(4) Notification. Every broker shall notify the director of those insurance companies, agents, agencies and surplus lines brokers with whom s/he places risks. This notification shall take place within ten (10) days after s/he places the first risk with the insurance company or surplus lines broker, agent or agency. Every broker also shall notify immediately the director when s/he no longer intends to place these risks with the insurance company or surplus lines broker agent or agency on a regular basis.

(5) Brokers’ Service Agreements.

(A) The form set forth in Exhibit A is approved for use as specified in section 375.116, RSMo. Substantially equivalent forms may be approved by the director where they contain additional provisions and do not affect the content of Exhibit A. Any such agreement must be a separate document from any other form or contract.

(B) A separate agreement shall be completed for each contract of insurance negotiated or procured where broker’s compensation falls within the requirements of section 375.116.3, RSMo. Each broker shall retain one (1) copy of this in his/her office for three (3) years and deliver one (1) copy to the insured.

(6) Brokers Applying for an Insurance Agent’s License. Any broker who applies for an insurance agent’s license covering the same line(s) of insurance covered by his/her insurance broker’s license will be deemed to have met the prelicensing educational requirements and the examination(s) will be waived for those lines of insurance. If the broker applies for one (1) or more lines of insurance for which s/he is not licensed as a broker, the broker will need to fulfill the prelicensing education requirements and pass the examination(s) for those lines before s/he will be issued an insurance agent’s license for those lines.


Exhibit A
Missouri Brokers Service
Contract

1. The undersigned insured hereby engages the services of ______________, a licensed Missouri insurance broker, license #___________, as his/her agent for the purpose of securing, negotiating and procuring the placement of the following described insurance coverages and to assist the undersigned in the preparation of any and all applications, underwriting data, and other information required by an insurer for the purposes of issuing an insurance policy within this state. The insurance coverage requested is: (Here describe in detail the coverage to be effected.)

2. The undersigned insured authorizes the broker to commit to a maximum premium of not more than ____________ per______________ for the above-stated coverage. The undersigned insured agrees to pay as compensation to the broker, above and in addition to the commission received from the insurer, for the various services of the broker a fee of not more than $________________________.

3. A brief description of those brokers services performed and not described in paragraph 1. above is:______________________________

This agreement is in furtherance of section 375.116, RSMo (1986) and Missouri Department of Insurance Regulation 20 CSR 700-1.100.

Dated:______________________________

(Insured)

Dated:______________________________

(Broker)
20 CSR 700-1.110 Licensing of Agencies

PURPOSE: This regulation explains insurance agency licensing standards and procedures in Missouri. This regulation was adopted pursuant to the provisions of section 374.045, RSMo and implements and interprets sections 375.012 and 375.061, RSMo.

(1) Agency Defined.

(A) An agency license must be obtained for each business entity meeting the definition of an insurance agency in section 375.012(3), RSMo.

(B) The true name of an individual within the context of section 375.012(3), RSMo shall be considered his/her legal name, to include a given (first) name, middle initial and surname.

(C) Any business entity subject to section 375.012, RSMo, where more than one (1) business agent or broker is employed in the solicitation, negotiation or procurement of insurance contracts and is not otherwise excepted by section 375.012, RSMo or other law, must be licensed as an insurance agency.

(D) If a business entity is acting as an insurance agency under more than one (1) name or operates subsidiaries under differing names which also come within the definition of agency, all these subagencies must be licensed as agencies.

(2) Application.

(A) The application required by section 375.061, RSMo must be completed on the form approved by the director of insurance by each applicant for licensure and accompanied by—

1. A copy of its registration of a fictitious name as filed with the Missouri Secretary of State or its Certificate of Good Standing as issued by the Missouri Secretary of State or if neither of the previous is applicable, a current certification from the state or federal agency governing the applicant’s authority to do business that the applicant is then in good standing to do business; and

2. The required fee in the amount required by section 375.061, RSMo, in a form other than cash.

(3) Licensing Renewals. Agency licenses shall be renewed biennially on the anniversary date of the original license. Failure to renew an agency license shall cause the agency’s authority to lapse. There shall be a required fee for renewal of the agency’s license; the amount of which is specified by section 375.061, RSMo.


Op. Atty. Gen. No. 177, Dill (5-2-68). “True name” as used in section 375.012, subsection (2), RSMo (Supp. 1967), means a person’s actual and not fictitious name and includes a surname, a first name and a middle name or initial.

Filing of this application does not give authority to act as an insurance agency. This authority does not exist until a license has been issued by the Department of Insurance.
This application must be accompanied by a $100.00 licensing fee. The agency license is renewable biennially on the anniversary date of issuance. PERSONAL CHECKS NOT ACCEPTED. FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE.

PART I

AGENCY NAME

LEGAL ADDRESS (REQUIRED) STREET NUMBER AND NAME COUNTY

CITY STATE ZIP

MAILING ADDRESS: STREET NUMBER AND NAME, P.O. BOX TELEPHONE NUMBER

CITY STATE ZIP

CHECK ONE □ INDIVIDUALLY OWNED □ PARTNERSHIP □ CORPORATION □ UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION □ OTHER

PART II

A. IF AGENCY APPLICANT IS A DOMESTIC CORPORATION (INCORPORATED IN MISSOURI):
1. Enclose a copy of the Certificate of Good Standing or Certificate of Incorporation:
   a. dated within the past year
   b. issued by the Missouri Secretary of State
2. List below the names, titles, social security numbers and addresses of the officers and directors. (Attach an additional sheet if needed.)
3. Enclose registration of D/B/A name from Missouri Secretary of State, if applicable.

B. IF AGENCY APPLICANT IS A FOREIGN CORPORATION (INCORPORATED IN A STATE OTHER THAN MISSOURI):
1. Enclose a copy of the Certificate of Good Standing or Certificate of Incorporation:
   a. dated within the past year
   b. issued by the state granting the corporation authority to conduct business as a corporation
   c. issued by the Missouri Secretary of State if the corporation has an office in Missouri.
2. List below the names, titles, social security numbers and addresses of the officers and directors. (Attach an additional sheet if needed.)
3. Enclose registration of D/B/A name from Missouri Secretary of State, if applicable.

C. IF AGENCY IS INDIVIDUALLY OWNED, A PARTNERSHIP, AN UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION, OR OTHER:
1. Enclose a copy of the Registration of Fictitious Name:
   a. issued by the Missouri Secretary of State
   (The Registration of Fictitious Name is not required when the agency name is the true name (First name, middle initial and surname of an individual.)
2. List below the name, social security number, title and address of each person or corporation having an interest in or owning any part of the agency. (Attach an additional sheet if needed.)

THIS SECTION (BELOW) MUST BE COMPLETED IN RESPONSE TO PART II A.2, B.2, AND C.2

SOC. SEC. # NAME TITLE ADDRESS

STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE

PART III

A. Was agency previously licensed in Missouri?
If yes, please give agency name and agency license number.
B. List all Missouri licensed insurance agents and/or brokers (this includes owners, officers and directors) employed by or acting in behalf of or through the agency and to whom the agency pays any salary or commission for the solicitation of or negotiation for any insurance contracts. (Attach additional sheet if needed). Please indicate if agent/broker application is pending in Missouri.

Agency license will not be issued without agents/brokers listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONE OR BOTH</th>
<th>NAME OF AGENT OR BROKER</th>
<th>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROKER</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. LIST THE ADDRESSES OF BRANCH OFFICES OF THE AGENCY

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Within twenty working days after the change of any information submitted on the application, or upon termination of an agency, the agency shall notify the Department of Insurance of the change or termination. This notification is to be filed on Change of Agency Status Form which will be enclosed with the agency license. There is no charge for this notification.

PART IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIGNATURE</th>
<th>TITLE (TYPE OR PRINT)</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOTARY PUBLIC EMBOSSES OR BLACK INK RUBBER STAMP SEAL</td>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>COUNTY (OR CITY OF ST. LOUIS):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME, THIS DAY OF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOTARY PUBLIC SIGNATURE</td>
<td>MY COMMISSION EXPIRES</td>
<td>USE RUBBER STAMP IN CLEAR AREA BELOW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOTARY PUBLIC NAME (TYPED OR PRINTED)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MO 375-1369 (11-98)
20 CSR 700-1.120 Certain Representatives of Prepaid Dental Corporations to be Licensed

PURPOSE: This regulation requires representatives of prepaid dental corporations who solicit contracts on behalf of the corporation to be licensed as insurance producers with the Department of Insurance pursuant to section 354.721, RSMo.

(1) Any person who solicits membership contracts on behalf of prepaid dental corporations or offers or assumes to act in negotiation of the contracts, whether a salaried representative of the corporation or one whose compensation is in part or in whole paid in the form of commissions on the business written, shall be duly licensed by this department as an accident and health insurance producer.

(2) No person shall act in this state as an insurance producer for a prepaid dental corporation unless s/he is licensed by the director as provided in this regulation.

(3) Persons desiring to solicit contracts on behalf of prepaid dental corporations shall comply with 20 CSR 700-1.010 and 20 CSR 700-3.100 as the regulations relate to insurance producer’s examination and licensing procedures and standards.

(4) Persons desiring to solicit contracts on behalf of prepaid dental corporations, in addition, shall be subject to the provisions of sections 375.016–375.022, 375.046–375.051 and 375.081, RSMo.

(5) The director may revoke or suspend, for a period as s/he may determine, any license of any insurance producer, if it is determined as provided by sections 621.045–621.205, RSMo, that the licensee or applicant has violated, at any time, the provisions of section 375.141, RSMo.


20 CSR 700-1.130 Appointment of Agents

PURPOSE: The department defines appointment of an agent, as used in section 375.022, RSMo, so an insurance company knows what act(s) constitutes appointment of an agent to act for the insurance company.

(1) As used in section 375.022, RSMo appointment of an agent means the earliest on which an insurance company, or its authorized agent does any of the following:

(A) Distributes an application form, which on its face requires submission of premium at the time of completing the application with a consumer, to the prospective agent, unless the application form is marked in bold type as a specimen;

(B) Accepts premiums from the prospective insurance agent;

(C) Accepts for underwriting an application for insurance submitted by the prospective insurance agent;

(D) Executes a written or oral employment contract with the prospective insurance agent;

(E) Grants binding authority given to the prospective insurance agent.

(2) An insurer may appoint agents directly, by appointing individual agents, or by designating a licensed agency, which designation shall be deemed to appoint all agents employed by such agency pursuant to section 375.061, RSMo to act for the insurance company in the lines for which the agents are licensed and for which the agency has been designated by the insurance company.

(A) Any agents listed or employed by an agency pursuant to section 375.061, RSMo after the designation of the agency by an insurer shall be deemed an appointment of such agents for all insurers with existing designations of the agency.

(B) The appointment of an agent pursuant to this subsection shall terminate upon the agent's termination or resignation from the agency with which the agent is listed or employed, upon termination of the agency by the insurer, or upon nonrenewal, suspension, revocation, or surrender of the agent's license.

(3) This rule does not apply to individuals licensed as insurance brokers in Missouri.


20 CSR 700-1.135 Forms for Filing Notice of Appointment of Agents and Notice of Termination of Appointment of Agents

(Rescinded January 30, 2003)


20 CSR 700-1.140 Minimum Standards of Competency and Trustworthiness for Agents, Agencies and Brokers Concerning Personal Insurance Transactions

PURPOSE: This regulation effectuates and aids in the interpretation of the provisions of section 375.141.1(4), RSMo, which relates to the competence and trustworthiness of agents, brokers and agencies. The regulation requires insurance agencies, agents and brokers to comply with certain minimum requirements in transactions involving personal insurance policies. It is promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 374.045, RSMo and implements the provisions of section 375.141, RSMo.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Cash premium payment means a premium payment made in the form of currency.

(B) Insurer means an insurance company, fraternal benefit society, health services corporation, health maintenance organization, prepaid health plan or any similar organization authorized to transact business in Missouri.

(C) Personal insurance policy means any liability or risk-assuming policy, contract, subscriber agreement, rider or endorsement delivered or issued for delivery in this state by an insurer, for the purpose of providing personal, noncommercial insurance coverage to an individual or family on a nongroup basis, including individual or family automobile, homeowners, life, annuity, health, property or casualty coverage.

(D) Licensee means a person licensed by Missouri to act as an insurance agent, agency or broker. The term may be used in this regulation as an alternative to the terms insurance agent, agency and broker whenever the provision in question applies to all three (3) types of license holders.

(E) Premium means any amount of money which is paid by the insured or prospective insured to a licensee for coverage under a personal insurance policy. The term shall also mean any amount which must be returned to the insured, as in the case of any unearned...
premium due the insured upon the termination of coverage.

(2) Document and Premium Handling Standards. When dealing with any personal insurance policy, every agent, agency and broker shall comply with the following standards of promptness regarding securing and amending coverage, providing written evidence of insurance transactions and handling premiums, except to the extent these actions are the responsibility of the insurer. Where it is the insurer’s responsibility to take these actions, this responsibility shall be delineated in a written document, a copy of which shall be retained by the licensee and available for examination by the department.

(A) Every agent, agency or broker shall handle every application for new coverage under a personal insurance policy and every request for amendments to an existing policy in a manner which will secure the new or amended coverage as soon as is reasonably possible, unless a longer time is permitted under a written agreement between the licensee and the insured or prospective insured. If within thirty (30) days of the original application for insurance the licensee has not yet secured an insurer willing to provide coverage, the licensee immediately shall inform the prospective insured of this fact in writing.

(B) Whenever an insurer requires additional information prior to issuing a new personal insurance policy, or prior to renewing, continuing or amending an existing policy, the agent, agency or broker through whom the insured or prospective applied for or procured the coverage shall inform, at the earliest reasonable opportunity, the insured or prospective insured of the need for the additional information from the insured or prospective insured.

(C) Every agent, broker or agency shall provide every purchaser of a personal insurance policy with written evidence of coverage at the time coverage is bound or the policy is issued, whichever occurs earlier, or as soon after as is reasonably possible, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the date the coverage is bound or the policy is issued.

(D) A written binder or insurance policy shall constitute written evidence of coverage for purposes of this subsection. Any application forms, riders or endorsements associated with the policy which are not provided along with written evidence of coverage shall be provided to the insured as soon as is reasonably possible. When an insurer declines to cover a prospective insured, the insurer’s written denial of coverage shall be provided by the licensee to the prospective insured as soon as is reasonably possible, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the date the coverage is denied.

(E) Agents, agencies or brokers shall remit all premium payments associated with a personal insurance policy to those persons entitled to them as soon as is reasonably possible after their receipt by the licensee, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the date of receipt, provided, however, that premiums may be remitted at a later point in time if the licensee is so authorized under a written agreement between the licensee and the person legally entitled to the premiums. In no event, however, shall the licensee retain premium payments if to do so will result in the failure to obtain or continue coverage on behalf of an insured or prospective insured.

(F) No licensee shall obtain or solicit for a loan or any type of ownership interest in any life insurance or accidental death policy, annuity product or any other insurance product if said licensee receives or will receive any commission, fee or compensation from the sale of the product. Such a prohibition would not apply if there exists a relationship between the insured or prospective insured and the licensee which gives rise to an insurable interest in the life of the insured or prospective insured.

(G) No licensee shall obtain or solicit for a loan or any type of ownership interest in any life insurance or accidental death policy, or any annuity product, or any other type of insurance product, from any insured or prospective insured “if” the licensee has received any commission, fee or other compensation from the sale of the product. This prohibition shall not apply—

1. When it is the usual occupation or practice of the insured or prospective insured to receive and process loan applications and to provide loans to the public as an owner, officer, director or employee of an institution in the business of providing such loans; or

2. When there exists a relationship between the insured or prospective insured and the licensee which gives rise to an insurable interest in the life of the insured or prospective insured.

(H) No agent, agency or broker shall accept a cash premium payment for new coverage under a personal insurance policy applied for or procured through the licensee, except to the extent the maintenance of these records is, in whole or in part, the responsibility of the insurer. Where it is the insurer’s responsibility to maintain these records, this responsibility shall be delineated in a written document(s), a copy of which shall be retained by the licensee. The records which must be maintained shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The name of the insured;
2. The name of the insurer, where one (1) has been selected;
3. The date of the cash payment;
4. The amount of the cash payment;
5. The policy number, if available, or other information which will describe the insurance coverage for which the cash premium was paid;
6. The signature of the licensee or an employee of the licensee duly authorized in writing to accept these payments or to execute the receipts; and
7. Any comment required under subsection (3)(D) of this rule.

(I) Use of the form, Exhibit A, shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of this section. Other receipt forms which contain the information required by this section may also be used. Methods of documenting the payment of premiums which do not satisfy all the requirements of this section, such as the use of premium payment books for debit plans, shall be deemed to satisfy this section only if their use for this purpose has been approved in writing by the director.

(J) A copy of the cash premium receipt shall be given to the person making the cash premium payment. An additional copy shall be retained by the licensee for the licensee’s records as provided in section (4) of this regulation, unless other records of the licensee and the insurer document the information required under subsections (3)(A) and (D) of this rule for purposes of inspections or examinations by the director.

(K) No agent, agency or broker shall accept a cash premium payment for new coverage under a personal insurance policy where the licensee has not selected an insurer with whom to place the coverage unless the cash premium receipt bears a comment indicating that an insurer has not yet been selected and that coverage currently does not yet exist.

(4) Minimum Recordkeeping Requirements for all Agents, Agencies and Brokers.

(A) Every agent, agency or broker shall maintain a complete set of records for each personal insurance policy applied for or procured through the licensee, except to the extent the maintenance of these records is, in whole or in part, the responsibility of the insurer. Where it is the insurer’s responsibility to maintain these records, this responsibility shall be delineated in a written document(s), a copy of which shall be retained by the licensee. The records which must be maintained shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. Any policy applications, declaration pages, endorsements, riders or binders associated with the policy;
2. Any written correspondence or copies of records transmitted to or received by the licensee concerning the policy;
3. Any documents associated with any claims filed with the licensee under the policy; and
4. Any receipts or other documents associated with any premium payments made to the licensee under the policy, including receipts for cash premium payments required under section (3) of this regulation.

(B) The records required to be maintained under this section shall be open to the inspection or examination of the director of insurance or his/her agents, and shall be maintained in an orderly manner so that the information in the records is readily available during the inspection or examination. The requirement of this subsection shall be deemed satisfied whenever a requested record can be retrieved from its storage location within five (5) business days of a request by the director or the director’s designee.

(C) An agent operating under an exclusive contract with an insurer, including one (1) insurer and its subsidiaries or affiliates, upon termination of the agency appointment, shall be required to maintain only those records as the contract authorizes him/her to retain, provided that the insurer shall bear responsibility for maintaining all other records which otherwise would have been required to be maintained by the agent.

(D) All records required to be maintained under this section shall be maintained for as long as the personal insurance policy in question is in force and for at least three (3) years thereafter.

(5) Discipline. Violation by an agent, agency or broker of the provisions of this regulation shall be deemed incompetent or untrustworthy behavior under section 375.141.1(4), RSMo and shall constitute grounds for discipline of the licensee under that section or other applicable laws.


EXHIBIT A

PREMIUM RECEIPT

Amount of payment: $________________ . ________  Date of Payment: __________/_______/_________

Name of Insurance Company: ________________________________________________________________

Policy Number or Description: _______________________________________________________________

Name of Insured: __________________________________________________________________________

Comment: _________________________________________________________________________________

Licensee’s Signature: ________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________

KEEP THIS RECEIPT AS PART OF YOUR RECORDS FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION.