

Compliance *Focus*



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Sharing
legislative
changes
surrounding
producer
licensing and
continuing
education (CE)

Arizona: Fingerprint Fees

The total fingerprinting fee will be reduced from \$29.00 to \$24.00. All applications or submissions requiring fingerprints that are received on or after September 19 must include the new \$24.00 fee for each fingerprint card.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: September 19, 2007**

Alaska: Fingerprint Fees

The fee charged for an applicant for both state and national criminal fingerprint-based background checks was \$59.00 (\$35.00 for a state background check and \$24.00 for a national background check). As of October 1, 2007, the fee for the national background check has been reduced to \$19.25. This means a set of two fingerprint cards submitted to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for both state and national background checks will cost resident applicants only \$54.25 instead of the previous \$59.00 fee.

- **Resident Agent Only**
- **Effective Date: October 1, 2007**

Delaware: Renewals

Effective January 1, 2008, the Delaware Insurance Department only accepts electronic license and renewal applications, through the National Insurance Producer Registry ("NIPR"). The website address is www.licenseregistry.com. Licensees on "inactive status" or those applying for an "Apprentice Adjuster" or "Apprentice Appraiser" license, must still submit hard copy applications.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: January 1, 2008**

Minnesota: Technology Surcharge

In addition to the standard licensing fees, insurance producers shall pay, for each license origination or renewal, a "technology surcharge" of up to \$40 for each 2 year period, as set by the Commissioner of Insurance. This surcharge shall be used to maintain an electronic licensing database system for license origination, renewal, and tracking the completion of continuing education requirements.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: August 31, 2007**

Maryland: Trade Names

Maryland has amended its law to: prohibit producers from using trade names; define the term "trade name"; and require that certain changes be filed with the Commissioner.

Prohibitions: A person who holds a license to sell insurance cannot use any name other than the name in which the license is issued or a trade name that has been filed with the commissioner to engage in *any activity* as required by that license. *Such activities include* execution of any document related to marketing, negotiation, selling, or issuance of insurance.

Definitions: "Trade Name" means a name, symbol, or word, or combination of two or more of these that a person uses to:

- identify its business, occupation, or self in a business capacity; and
- be distinguished from another business, occupation, or person.

Required to be filed: A "trade name" is required to be filed by any means acceptable by the Commissioner. Previously, a change in legal name or address was not required to be filed. The Commissioner only had to be informed of any changes. However, in addition to a trade name, a change in legal or address must also be filed. A filing must be made with thirty (30) days of the change.

Failure to file a trade name, a change in legal name or address in a timely manner with the Commissioner is considered a violation of this law and could result in a license being suspended or revoked. A penalty of not less than \$100 but not exceeding \$500 for each violation may also be imposed.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: October 1, 2007**

Virginia: Terminations

On September 10, 2007 the Bureau of Insurance mailed computer lists to 817 insurers notifying them of all agents whose licenses were terminated for failure to comply with continuing education requirements. The agents could reapply immediately, provided they had completed the pre-licensing examination requirements and paid the \$1,000 penalty. In the alternative, an agent could wait 90 days and apply for a new license (provided he/she had completed the pre-licensing licensing requirements) without having to pay the penalty. These procedures also apply to non-resident agents, with the exception that they do not need to complete the pre-licensing examination requirements. Agents can also appeal a termination if they file a notice of appeal within 30 days of the termination.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: October 22, 2007**

Vermont: Continuing Education Requirements

The review period for Continuing Education has been changed. The previous review period began on October 1st of even numbered years and ended on September 30th of the following year. The new review period begins on April 1st of odd numbered years and ends on the following March 31st. Beginning on the review period starting March 31st, 2009, a producer must obtain three ethics related credits out of the total twenty-four hours of continuing education credits required.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent***
- **Effective Date: November 22, 2007**

* This regulation does not apply to a nonresident producer who resides in a state or district that has a continuing education requirement and who has satisfied such requirement, and submits documentation of continuing education to the Commissioner.

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Colorado: Renewals and Applications

The State of Colorado has the following requirements in place for insurance producers seeking to apply or renew their producer licenses:

Online services: All initial applications for producer licenses or renewals must be submitted through the online renewal service, which is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Producers may pay by credit card or electronic check. At least 30 days prior to the renewal date, producers will receive a renewal notice, providing detailed information regarding the online renewal process.

Proof of legal status: At the time of license application or renewal, producers must provide proof of their legal status in the United States or the Division will deny or non-renew the license. The following documents will satisfy this proof requirement:

- A. Any Colorado Driver License, Colorado Driver Permit or Colorado Identification Card, expired less than one year. (Temporary paper license with invalid Colorado Driver License, Colorado Driver Permit, or Colorado Identification Card, expired less than one year is considered acceptable.)
- B. Out-of-state issued photo Driver's License or photo identification card, photo drivers permit expired less than one year.
- C. Valid foreign passport with I-94 or valid Processed For 1551 stamps;
- D. Valid I-94 issued by Canadian government with LI or RI status and a valid Canadian driver's license or valid Canadian identification card.
- E. Valid 1551 Resident Alien/Permanent Resident card. NO border crosser or USA B1/B2 Visa/BCC cards.
- F. Valid 1688 Temporary Resident Card, 1688B and 1766 Employment Authorization Card.
- G. Valid US Military ID (active duty, dependent, retired, reserve and National Guard).
- H. Tribal Identification Card with intact photo (U.S. or Canadian).
- I. Certificate of Naturalization with intact photo.
- J. Certificate of (US) Citizenship with intact photo.

- **Resident and Nonresident Agent**
- **Effective Date: December 21, 2007**



Bulletin provided by The Hartford Group Retiree Health:

This bulletin briefly highlights change(s) to state regulations that may affect your business. In no way should the bulletin be considered legal or financial advice. You should consult with your legal and/or business advisor(s) and rely on your advisor(s) for guidance before acting.

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