

UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR RIDERS, ENDORSEMENTS OR AMENDMENTS USED TO EFFECT GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE POLICY CHANGES

Scope: These standards apply to riders, endorsements or amendments that are used to effect group policy changes that are required by state or federal law, that have been requested for a group term life insurance policy by the policyholder, or that are the result of either party exercising their rights under the group policy. Such policy change forms may be attached to the group term life insurance policy on the policy date of issue or after the policy date of issue.

Mix and Match: These standards are available to be used in combination with State Product Components as described in Section 111(b) of the Operating Procedure for the Filing and Approval of Product Filings. These standards are available to be used in combination with IIPRC-approved or state-approved group life insurance and annuity forms.

Self-Certification: These standards are not available to be filed using the Rule for the Self-Certification of Product Components Filed with the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission.

§ 1 ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A. GENERAL

The following additional submission requirements shall apply:

- (1) Include all forms filed for approval with the filing. Highlight changes to a previously approved form.
- (2) If the filing is being submitted on behalf of an insurance company, include a letter or other document authorizing the firm to file on behalf of the insurance company.
- (3) If the form contains variable items, include the Statement of Variability. The submission shall also include a certification that any change or modification to a variable item shall be administered in accordance with the requirements in the Variability of Information section, including any requirements for prior approval of a change or modification.
- (4) Include a certification signed by an insurance company officer that the form has a minimum Flesch Score of 50. See Appendix A of the respective group life insurance product standards with which the form will be used for the Flesch methodology.
- (5) Include a listing by filing jurisdiction of the types of policies with which the form will be used, including the policy form numbers, the corresponding approval date for these policies and any filing identification number.

- (6) Include a statement whether the form will be made a part of the group policy at issue or is intended for use after the date of issue of a group policy, or both.

B. VARIABILITY OF INFORMATION

- (1) The insurance company may file a generic group policy change form to accommodate all the policy changes required to reflect the underwriting needs of an insurance company. To support the use of such form, the submission shall include a Statement of Variability providing information sufficient to identify the potential policy changes that may be made.
- (2) The insurance company shall identify items that will be considered variable. The item shall be bracketed or otherwise marked to denote variability. The submission shall include a Statement of Variability that will discuss the conditions under which each variable item may change.
- (3) The group policy changes to be made shall be consistent with the Statement of Variability filed for such policy change form and the Statement of Variability filed for the group term life insurance policy for which the change is being made, as well as the company's underwriting guidelines for such policy.
- (4) Items such as officer titles and officer signatures may be denoted as variable and may be changed without notice or prior approval.

§ 2 BENEFIT PROVISIONS

A. GROUP POLICY CHANGE FORM REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The full corporate name of the insurance company shall appear on the form.
- (2) At least one signature of an insurance company officer shall appear on the form if it is added after the date of issue of the group policy.
- (3) The form shall contain a statement that it is made a part of the group policy, and that the form provisions apply in lieu of any policy provisions to the contrary.
- (4) A form identification number shall appear at the bottom of the form in the left hand corner. The form number shall be adequate to distinguish the form from all others used by the company. The form number shall include a prefix of ICCxx (where xx represents the year the form was submitted for filing).
- (5) The form shall include:
 - (a) The group policy number;
 - (b) The name of the policyholder for whom the change applies;

- (c) Any changes to the premium;
 - (d) The effective date of the group policy change; and
 - (e) If the group policy change has an expiry date, the expiry date for the policy change.
- (6) If the group policy change eliminates or reduces benefits or rights under the policy, the form shall require the signature of the policyholder. An insurance company may eliminate the signature requirement **only if allowed by state law** and if the change is required by state or federal law or if it has supporting documentation, such as an application signed by the policyholder or a signed request from the policyholder, supporting the policy change.

9-12-2023 PSC: Maryland suggests the following change as a replacement to item A(6): "The form shall include the signature of a responsible officer of the carrier as part of the form." Maryland requires a signature for any changes.
PSC comments: The PSC suggested adding "only if allowed by state law to A. (6).