

5. The insurer or insurance agent should be consulted to obtain further information about how to secure flood insurance, including the availability, terms and coverage;

6. Standard homeowners insurance policies do not cover damage to property, contents and structure resulting from floods; however, flood insurance may be available through the National Flood Insurance Program which exists in participating communities; and

7. The National Flood Insurance Program coverage contains separate content and structure coverage. A policyholder should consult with the National Flood Insurance Program or his insurer or insurance producer as to whether the coverage selected is appropriate to the policyholder's needs.

(b) The notice shall be provided at new business inception and at least annually thereafter. For the purpose of this subsection, new business inception means when the application is taken; when the coverage is bound; or when the policy is presented to the insured. The notice may be included with other materials sent to the policyholder.

New Rule, R.1997 d.194, effective May 19, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 5137(a), 29 N.J.R. 2462(b).
Amended by R.2001 d.75, effective March 5, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 4184(a), 33 N.J.R. 794(a).
Added (a)6 and 7.

11:1-5.6 FAIR plan retention level

The retention level for the FAIR plan established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:37A-18 shall be \$35 million.

New Rule, R.1997 d.471, effective November 3, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 1009(a), 29 N.J.R. 4688(a).

SUBCHAPTER 6. NEW JERSEY PROPERTY-LIABILITY INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ASSESSMENT PREMIUM SURCHARGE

Public Notice: Imposition of a Surcharge for Recoupment of the Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Assessment. See: 38 N.J.R. 4254(b).

Public Notice: Imposition of a Surcharge for Recoupment of the Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Assessment. See: 39 N.J.R. 4004(a).

Public Notice: Imposition of a Surcharge for Recoupment of the Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Assessment. See: 40 N.J.R. 6490(a).

Public Notice: Imposition of a Surcharge for Recoupment of the Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Assessment. See: 41 N.J.R. 3971(b).

11:1-6.1 Purpose and scope

(a) This subchapter provides for the recoupment by member insurers of the Association of assessments paid pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3).

(b) This subchapter applies to all assessments imposed on member insurers pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3) and which have not been recouped as of September 3, 1991. This subchapter does not apply to any assessments imposed on member insurers pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(9).

Case Notes

When Medical Malpractice Reinsurance Association makes assessment against insurers, insurers are entitled to recoup that assessment through surcharges on insureds. In re New Jersey Medical Malpractice Reinsurance Recovery Fund Surcharge, Adopted New Rules, N.J.A.C. 11:18, 246 N.J.Super. 109, 586 A.2d 1317 (A.D.1991), certification denied 126 N.J. 328, 598 A.2d 886.

Statutory workers' compensation lien for benefits paid to injured employee by workers' compensation insurer was not enforceable against Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association. *Sussman v. Ostroff*, 232 N.J.Super. 306, 556 A.2d 1301 (A.D.1989), certification denied 117 N.J. 143, 564 A.2d 865.

Surplus lines insurers held excluded from operation of Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Act, even prior to statutory amendment specifically excluding them from Act. *Railroad Roofing & Building Supply Co., Inc. v. Financial Fire & Casualty Co.*, 85 N.J. 384, 427 A.2d 66 (1981).

11:1-6.2 Definitions

The following words and terms when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Association" means the New Jersey Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-1 et seq.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Insurance.

"Department" means the New Jersey Department of Insurance.

"Member insurer" is as defined in N.J.S.A. 17:30A-5f.

11:1-6.3 Establishment of Association assessment premium surcharge

(a) Upon a determination by the Commissioner that a surcharge on premiums is necessary to permit member insurers to recoup assessments paid to the Association pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3), he or she shall order within 30 days of the due date of an assessment that a surcharge be imposed on net direct written premiums for policies to which N.J.S.A. 17:30A-1 et seq. applies. The essential terms of the Order shall be published in the New Jersey Register.

(b) The amount of a surcharge shall be established by the Commissioner by Order. In determining the amount of a surcharge the Commissioner shall consider:

1. The amount of any assessment on member insurers imposed by the Association pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3);

2. The surcharge amount necessary in the Commissioner's opinion to permit member insurers to recoup any assessment paid to the Association pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3) over a reasonable time which shall not be less than one year, except in the case of excess medical benefits assessments which shall be recouped as provided at N.J.S.A. 17:30A-16 within not more than two years of the date they are paid; and

3. The net direct written premiums for all lines of insurance to which N.J.S.A. 17:30A-1 et seq. applies.

(c) A surcharge imposed pursuant to this subchapter shall apply to all policies for all kinds of insurance, except life insurance, accident and health insurance, workers' compensation insurance, title insurance, annuities, surety bonds, credit insurance, mortgage guaranty insurance, municipal bond coverage, fidelity insurance, investment return assurance, ocean marine insurance and pet health insurance.

(d) A surcharge imposed pursuant to this subchapter and by applicable Orders of the Commissioner shall be identified to the insured as "New Jersey Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Surcharge" and the amount of the surcharge shall be shown as a separate item on the premium bill rounded to the nearest dollar. The surcharge amount shall not be treated as premium for accounting purposes or for commissions, but must be coded and reported in accordance with instructions issued by the statistical agents under the direction of the Commissioner.

(e) Any change in premium by endorsement subsequent to the effective date of the policy shall reflect the appropriate change in the surcharge. In the case of flat cancellations, the entire surcharge amount shall be returned to the policyholder.

(f) All assessments imposed on member insurers by the Association pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8a(3) shall be considered a receivable by the insurer for accounting purposes. The receivable shall also be considered an admitted asset for statutory accounting purposes. Any surcharges on policies as established by this subchapter shall be considered an offset to the receivable by the insurer for accounting purposes. If an insurer ceases to write all lines of business to which N.J.S.A. 17:30A-1 et seq. applies for any reason, the receivable shall be cancelled to the extent it has not been offset by any surcharges collected and the assessment shall be treated as an expense by the insurer for accounting purposes.

(g) Surcharges on premiums for multi-year policies, including perpetual insurance policies, shall be billed annually pursuant to the procedures established by this subchapter and applicable Orders of the Commissioner.

(h) Surcharges collected by an insurer pursuant to this subchapter are not taxable premiums for the purposes of determining the insurer's tax liability pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:18A-1 et seq.

(i) An insurer shall not be required to collect a surcharge if the expense of collecting the surcharge exceeds the amount of the surcharge.

(j) A surcharge established pursuant to this subchapter shall provide recoupment to insurers for any assessment imposed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8(3). Such assessments shall not be considered obligations within the context of the retaliatory provisions set forth in N.J.S.A. 17:32-15.

(k) Upon a finding by the Commissioner that the surcharge is no longer necessary to permit member insurers to recoup assessments paid to the Association pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-8(3), he or she shall order that imposition of the surcharge be terminated. Upon termination of the surcharge, any debit or credit balance shown on that year's reconciliation form shall remain on the insurer's books to be applied in the annual reconciliation form filed the following year and each year thereafter.

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 29 N.J.R. 265(a).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 30 N.J.R. 244(b).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 31 N.J.R. 77(b).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 32 N.J.R. 327(b).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1025(a).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 34 N.J.R. 1556(a).

Public Notice: Imposition of surcharge.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1456(b).

Amended by R.2003 d.495, effective December 15, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 3071(a), 35 N.J.R. 5593(a).

Rewrote (b)2.

Public Notice: Imposition of Surcharge for Recoupment of the Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Assessment.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1836(e).

11:1-6.4 Reporting requirements

All insurers collecting a surcharge established pursuant to this subchapter shall file by March 1 of each year a reconciliation form on a form to be provided by the Commissioner. The form shall show the assessments paid to the Association and the surcharges collected by the insurer, if any, during the calendar year immediately preceding. This information shall be forwarded to:

New Jersey Department of Insurance
Division of Financial Examinations
20 West State Street
PO Box 325
Trenton, NJ 08625-0325

Amended by R.1996 d.116, effective March 4, 1996.

See: 27 N.J.R. 4121(a), 28 N.J.R. 1382(a).

11:1-6.5 Penalties

Failure to comply with the provisions of this subchapter may result in the imposition of penalties as authorized by law, including, but not limited to, penalties set forth in N.J.S.A. 17:33-2.