

vi. A copy of the minutes from all meetings upon request;

11. To audit the records of any participant relating to the subject matter of CAIP and establish such policies, records, books of account, documents and related material which shall be maintained for the proper administration of CAIP;

12. To perform such other functions as may be necessary and proper to administer CAIP in accordance with this subchapter and the approved plan of operation;

13. To indemnify on behalf of the member insurers each member of the governing committee, and employees for any and all claims, suits, costs of investigations, costs of defense, settlements or judgments against them on account of an act or omission in the scope of the member's duties or employee's employment. CAIP shall refuse to indemnify if it determines that the act or failure to act was due to actual fraud, willful misconduct or actual malice.

14. Appoint from among its members or from qualified nonmembers appropriate legal, actuarial, claims, and other committees as necessary to provide technical assistance in the operation of the CAIP, policy and other contract design, and any other function within the authority of the CAIP;

i. The Commissioner or his or her designee may serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of any committee (except the appeals subcommittee) established pursuant to this section.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

Case Notes

Commissioner lacked authority to create Appeals Subcommittee composed of industry employees to hear premium disputes under policies issued pursuant to Commercial Automobile Insurance Plan. *Chopper Exp., Inc. v. Department of Ins. of State of N.J.*, 293 N.J. Super. 536, 681 A.2d 1226 (A.D.1996).

11:3-1.5 Participation

(a) At the end of each fiscal period, CAIP's operating profit or loss shall be determined separately for each policy year. Profit shall be credited or distributed to each participant and loss shall be charged against each participant in proportion to each participant's "net participation percentage" for the second prior year which resulted in the profit or loss.

(b) All data necessary to comply with the foregoing participation procedures shall be reported to the CAIP's central statistical agent in the manner described in the approved statistical plan.

(c) Groups of participants under the same ownership and management shall be treated as a single participant. Groups of participants under either the same ownership or

management, but not both, may elect to be treated either separately or as a single company.

(d) In the event a participant discontinues writing motor vehicle liability or physical damage insurance in this State and retains its certificate of authority to write such business, it shall continue to pay assessments, provided, however, that if the automobile liability or physical damage business of a participant discontinuing the writing of automobile liability or physical damage insurance in this State has been purchased by, transferred to, or reinsured by another company, the latter shall receive the assessments of the former.

(e) In the event a participant is merged with another company or there is a consolidation of companies, the continuing company shall receive the assessments of the company merged or consolidated, provided, however, the continuing company may be relieved from such obligations if another company has agreed, in a manner satisfactory to the governing committee, to assume such obligations.

(f) Participation shall be suspended upon order of the Commissioner of Insurance if he or she finds that such action is required by the financial condition of that participant.

(g) All participants in CAIP shall participate in the business written by the Commercial Automobile Insurance Plan pursuant to an approved plan of operation.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

11:3-1.6 Plan of operation

(a) The plan of operation shall provide for the prompt and efficient provision of automobile insurance to eligible applicants. The plan of operation shall provide for, among any other matters:

1. The internal organization and proceedings of the governing committee;
2. Standards and procedures for the appointment, compensation, and termination of and performance standards for servicing carriers, the CAIP manager, other employees, professionals and contractors required to administer CAIP along with a producers certification program;
3. The extent of coverage to be offered by CAIP to eligible applicants;
4. Procedures to apply for coverage;
5. Premium rules, surcharges and minimum premiums;
6. Procedures for handling premium charge-offs;
7. Procedures for the performance of preliminary premium audits on certain risks identified by the governing committee and approved by the Commissioner;
8. Procedures for a servicing carrier performance audit program;

9. Establishment of a Producer Compliance Unit which shall report directly to the CAIP manager;

10. The amount of commissions to be paid producers;

11. Provisions for the cancellation or the nonrenewal of policies;

12. Methods and means for the collection, investment and disbursement of funds;

13. Development and maintenance of a statistical plan, and manuals incorporating that plan, which shall be subject to the prior approval by the Commissioner in the same manner as the plan of operation; and

14. A voluntary depopulation credit program which shall be used in calculating a participant's net participation for the CAIP;

15. Procedures for the provision of coverage to good faith applicants where a producer has violated plan rules; and

16. Development of a basic servicing carrier contract and procedures for making modifications to that contract.

(b) For the purpose of conformance with the amendments to this chapter effective October 21, 1996, the governing committee shall, by January 19, 1997, submit to the Commissioner, for his or her review and approval, proposed revision to the plan of operation. The governing committee may propose amendments to the plan of operation at any time.

(c) The proposed plan and any amendments shall be reviewed by the Commissioner and approved by him or her if he or she finds it fulfills the purposes provided by this subchapter. If approved, the Commissioner shall certify approval to the governing committee and the plan of operation or amendments shall take effect 10 days after such certification.

1. If the Commissioner disapproves all or any part of the plan of operation or any amendment he or she shall return same to the governing committee with a statement, that sets forth the reasons for his or her disapproval and may include other recommendations he or she may wish to make.

2. If the governing committee does not submit a plan of operation by 90 days from the effective date of these amendments or a new plan which is acceptable to the Commissioner within 90 days after the disapproval of a proposed plan, the Commissioner may promulgate a plan of operation and certify same to the governing committee.

3. Any such plan approved by the Commissioner shall take effect 10 days after the certification to the governing committee; provided, however, that until a plan of operation is in effect pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter, the existing Commercial Automobile Insurance Plan temporary placement facility shall be continued in effect. Each participant shall continue to comply with the Commercial Automobile Insurance Plan with respect to all business written under the procedure prior to the effective date of the CAIP plan of operation.

(d) The Commissioner may propose an amendment to the plan of operation by communicating the proposed amendment to the governing committee. If the governing committee does not adopt amendments acceptable to the Commissioner within 30 days, the Commissioner may certify amendments with an effective date to the governing committee. For good cause shown, the Commissioner may certify proposed amendments two days after copies of the proposed amendments are provided to the governing committee.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

Case Notes

Former New Jersey assigned risk scheme in automobile liability coverage mentioned in discussion of methods available to a state to deal with the social consequences of adverse risk selection. *Owens v. Aetna Life & Casualty Co.*, 654 F.2d 218 (3rd Cir.1981), certiorari denied 102 S.Ct. 657, 454 U.S. 1092, 70 L.Ed.2d 631 (1981).

11:3-1.7 Coverage

(a) CAIP shall provide to eligible applicants, bodily injury liability and property damage liability coverages as follows:

1. CAIP shall provide basic combined single limit of \$35,000 and statutory uninsured motorist coverage except:

i. When limits in excess of the basic combined single limit of \$35,000 are required by law, the plan shall offer limits adequate to comply with the minimum requirements of that law, except with respect to limits over \$5 million in which case excess coverage is conditioned upon the plan being able to secure facultative reinsurance. CAIP shall provide a policy for limits less than the minimum requirements of the law when evidence of adequate excess insurance is provided by the producer or the insured.

ii. CAIP shall provide limits adequate to comply with the provisions of the financial responsibility law of any state in which the motor vehicle will be operated, but only while the vehicle is being operated in that state.

iii. CAIP shall also offer the optional limits of liability as specified in the plan of operation.

(b) CAIP shall offer to eligible applicants, additional uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage as follows:

1. Additional uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage shall be provided as an option to the named insured up to the limits set forth in N.J.S.A. 17:28-1.1b and subject to the deductibles specified in the plan of operation. The limits for uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage shall not exceed the insured's motor vehicle liability policy limits for bodily injury and property damage respectively.

2. Uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage shall not be increased by stacking the limits of coverage of multiple motor vehicles covered under the same policy of insurance nor shall these coverages be increased by stacking the limits of coverage of multiple policies available to the insured. If the insured had uninsured motorist coverage available under more than one policy, any recovery shall not exceed the higher of the applicable limits of the respective coverages and the recovery shall be prorated between the applicable coverages as the limits of each coverage bear to the total of the limits.

3. Uninsured motorist coverage shall be subject to the policy terms, conditions and exclusions approved by the Commissioner, including, but not limited to, unauthorized settlements, nonduplication of coverage, subrogation and arbitration.

(c) CAIP shall provide to eligible applicants, basic and additional personal injury protection coverage as follows:

1. With respect to those automobiles subject to the New Jersey Automobile Repair Reform Act, CAIP shall provide basic personal injury protection coverage under every automobile liability policy as required by the Act and shall also offer to the named insured Additional Personal Injury Protection as required by the Act and by regulations promulgated by the Commissioner thereunder.

(d) CAIP shall provide to eligible applicants, physical damage coverage as follows:

1. CAIP shall only offer physical damage coverage to:

- i. Private passenger vehicles;
- ii. Private passenger type vehicles;
- iii. Light trucks;
- iv. Motorcycles;
- v. Recreational trailers (excluding trailers used as residences); and
- vi. Social services vehicles of the private passenger, station wagon, van or mini-bus type owned by or operated on behalf of a non-profit entity used to transport, without charge, the elderly or handicapped.

2. Notwithstanding (d)1 above, CAIP shall not offer physical damage coverage to:

- i. Risks consisting of fleets of 10 or more vehicles not including trailers and semi-trailers;
- ii. Vehicles more than 25 or more years old;
- iii. Vehicles with a seating capacity in excess of 20;
- iv. Any emergency type vehicle; and
- v. Any vehicle which is operated under a registration plate not issued for a specific vehicle.

3. Comprehensive and collision coverage shall be provided on an actual cash value basis, less deductible, subject to a maximum loss payable of such amount at which physical damage coverage may be exported in accordance with the exportable list promulgated by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22-6.43. CAIP shall also offer optional higher deductibles as specified in the plan of operation.

4. Physical damage coverage shall be offered only in connection with a policy written by the plan affording bodily injury and property damage coverage.

5. Upon request, CAIP shall issue a loss payable clause for the benefit of a lienholder.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

11:3-1.8 Eligibility

(a) As a prerequisite for insurance from CAIP, a prospective insured must attempt, within 60 days prior to the date of application, to obtain automobile insurance in New Jersey, and be unable to obtain such insurance. The prospective insured must certify, in the application form prescribed by CAIP, that the applicant has attempted, but has been unable, to obtain automobile insurance in New Jersey through ordinary methods. An applicant so certifying shall be considered for assignment upon making application in good faith to the CAIP. An application shall be considered in good faith if he or she reports all information of a material nature and does not willfully make incorrect or misleading statements of a material nature in the prescribed application form approved by the Commissioner.

(b) For any risk consisting of 10 or more vehicles, the applicant must also provide:

1. A copy of the notice of cancellation or nonrenewal from the applicant's previous insurer, or an explanation concerning why the applicant was not insured; and
2. A certification that the applicant has been refused insurance within 60 days of the date of application from at least three named insurers licensed to transact automobile business in New Jersey. Such certification shall list the three insurers.

(c) No producer shall bind a risk for CAIP or submit an application for insurance to CAIP if such producer knows that the risk currently has or has been offered coverage from the voluntary market.

(d) An eligible applicant shall not be afforded coverage until it:

1. Submits an application as prescribed in the plan of operation;
2. Pays the premium, or portion thereof, required in the plan of operation;

3. Is accepted for coverage by CAIP as provided for in the plan of operation; and

4. Completes such other requirements as set forth in the plan of operation.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

11:3-1.9 Rates and policy forms

(a) CAIP shall continue to use the rates, rules, surcharges, minimum premiums, classifications and policy forms approved for the Commercial Automobile Insurance Plan until modified or changed pursuant to this subchapter.

(b) The governing committee shall file all rates, rules, surcharges, minimum premiums, classifications and policy forms to be used by CAIP for the prior approval of the Commissioner. Proceedings to review these filings shall be conducted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:29A-1 et seq. All rates shall consider the experience of risks insured by the plan and shall not be excessive, inadequate or unfairly discriminatory.

(c) For any risk with less than 10 vehicles, the premium shall be subject to a merit rating plan established in the plan of operation. Every rate filing shall include an analysis of the adequacy of the merit rating plan.

(d) Any risk with 10 or more vehicles not including trailers and semi-trailers shall be considered as a fleet. CAIP shall file base rates for fleets with the Commissioner for his or her prior approval which are different than the rates for non-fleet risks if CAIP determines that the loss expectancy of fleet risks insured by CAIP is different than the loss expectancy of non-fleet risks insured by CAIP.

(e) Fleet risks shall be subject to an experience rating plan established in the plan of operation, which shall set forth the criteria for eligibility of the experience rating plan. If any fleet risk is determined to be ineligible for the experience rating plan, the risk shall be subject to a merit rating plan established in the plan of operation.

(f) Any risk with basic limits premium of \$100,000 or greater shall also be subject to a retrospective rating plan established in the plan of operation. In the event CAIP finds that the premium from all retrospectively rated risks combined is inadequate, or excessive, CAIP shall file with the Commissioner for his or her prior approval a change in the retrospective rating formulas, including a percentage surcharge on all retrospectively rated risks if necessary, so that the total premium from retrospectively rated risks is adequate based on the combined experience of retrospectively rated risks insured by the plan.

Amended by R.1996 d.502, effective October 21, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 4489(a), 28 N.J.R. 4586(a).

11:3-1.10 Right to petition for appeal to the Commissioner

(a) An applicant, insured, producer, servicing carrier or participant may petition for appeal to the Commissioner from an adverse decision of the governing committee by filing a request in writing within 20 days of the date of receipt of the written decision of the governing committee.

1. The written request to appeal shall set forth the facts upon which it is based and include a copy of the written decision of the governing committee.

2. The Commissioner shall notify the petitioner and the governing committee within 30 days whether the request to appeal shall be granted.

3. Notice from the Commissioner that an appeal has been granted shall also provide a statement about whether the action of the governing committee has been stayed pending the disposition of the appeal.

(b) An appeal to the Commissioner granted pursuant to this rule shall be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq.

SUBCHAPTER 2. NEW JERSEY PERSONAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE PLAN

11:3-2.1 Purpose and scope

(a) This subchapter establishes a plan pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:29D-1 for the providing and apportionment of personal private passenger automobile insurance coverage for automobiles which are owned or operated by qualified applicants.

(b) The purposes of this subchapter are:

1. To provide the coverages described herein, subject to the conditions stated;

2. To establish a procedure for the equitable distribution of risks assigned to insurance companies; and

3. To preserve to the public the benefits of price competition by encouraging maximum use of the voluntary private insurance system.

(c) The provisions of this subchapter shall apply to all insurers admitted to transact private passenger automobile insurance in this State and all qualified applicants for automobile insurance through the PAIP, except as otherwise provided in this subchapter.