

3. The purpose of, or reason for, the transactions;
4. If applicable, the identity of the replacement reinsurers; and
5. A copy of the revised provisions of the reinsurance agreement.

(d) Insurers shall report all material nonrenewals, cancellations or revisions of ceded reinsurance agreements on a non-consolidated basis unless the insurer is part of a consolidated group of insurers which utilizes a pooling arrangement or 100 percent reinsurance agreement that affects the solvency and integrity of the insurer's reserves and the insurer ceded substantially all of its direct and assumed business to the pool. An insurer is deemed to have ceded substantially all of its direct and assumed business to a pool if the insurer has less than \$1,000,000 total direct plus assumed written premiums during a calendar year that are not subject to a pooling arrangement and the net income of the business not subject to the pooling arrangement represents less than five percent of the insurer's capital and surplus.

**11:1-39.6 Penalties**

Failure to comply with the requirements of this subchapter shall result in the imposition of penalties as authorized by law.

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SUBCHAPTER 40. (RESERVED)

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SUBCHAPTER 41. SURETY BONDS FOR CONTRACTS INVOLVING THE STATE, LOCAL CONTRACTING UNITS, BOARDS OF EDUCATION, STATE COLLEGES AND COUNTY COLLEGES

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1, 17:1-15e, and P.L. 1995, c.384.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.1996 d.496, effective October 21, 1996.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 3505(a), 28 N.J.R. 4582(a).

**11:1-41.1 Purpose and scope**

(a) This subchapter implements the Commissioner's responsibilities pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384, which statute provides standards for acceptable sureties providing payment and performance bonds for contractors on public works projects. This subchapter sets forth the rating companies that may be considered by contracting officers for purposes of determining whether a surety company may be utilized to provide payment and performance bonds for a

public works project pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384. This subchapter also sets forth the standards for a surety company which does not hold a certificate of authority issued by the United States Secretary of the Treasury to be deemed acceptable by contracting officers to provide payment and performance bonds for a public works project pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384.

(b) This subchapter shall apply to all surety companies seeking to provide payment and performance bond coverage on a public works project at the expense of the State, contracting unit (as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2), school district, State college or county college, subject to P.L. 1995, c.384.

**11:1-41.2 Definitions**

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

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

"Department" means the New Jersey Department of Insurance.

"NAIC" means the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

"Treasury listed" means a surety that holds a current certificate of authority issued by the United States Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 9305, that is valid in New Jersey as listed annually in the United States Treasury Circular 570.

"Surety" means an insurer authorized or admitted to transact fidelity and surety business in this State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:17-10 or 17:32-1 et seq., as applicable.

**11:1-41.3 Rating company**

(a) The following rating companies are nationally recognized as providing ratings regarding the claims paying ability of insurers and may be used to determine whether a surety company is acceptable to provide payment and performance bonds pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384:

1. A.M. Best Company;
2. Standard and Poor's Insurance Rating Services;
3. Moody's Investors Service, Inc.;
4. Duff and Phelps Credit Rating Company;
5. Weiss Ratings, Inc.; and
6. Fitch Investors Service, L.P.

(b) The three highest rating categories for each of the rating companies in (a) above are set forth in Appendix A to this subchapter incorporated herein by reference.

**11:1-41.4 Treasury listed surety companies and alternative requirements to Treasury listing**

(a) A surety company which is Treasury listed seeking to provide payment or performance bonds as required by P.L. 1995, c.384 may request to be listed by the Department as an acceptable surety for provision of bonds on public works contracts by filing a certification to that effect in the format of Appendix B to this subchapter incorporated herein by reference.

(b) A surety company that is not Treasury listed seeking to provide payment or performance bonds as required pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384 may request to be listed by the Department as an acceptable surety for provision of bonds on public works contracts by filing a certification in the format of Appendix B to this subchapter incorporated herein by reference, that the surety satisfies the following requirements:

1. The surety shall be authorized or admitted to transact fidelity and surety in this State pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:17-10 or 17:32-1 et seq., as applicable;

2. The surety shall not have been found to be in a hazardous financial condition by the Commissioner, its domiciliary jurisdiction, and all jurisdictions in which it is licensed, as determined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:2-27 or such equivalent requirements in other jurisdictions in which the surety is domicile and admitted;

3. The surety's net premium written to surplus as to policyholders shall not exceed a 3:1 premium to surplus ratio, and loss and loss adjustment expense reserve liability to surplus shall not exceed a 4:1 ratio as of the date of its most recently filed annual statement;

4. The surety shall satisfy, at a minimum, the statutorily prescribed minimum capital and surplus or net cash asset requirements for all lines of insurance that it is authorized to write pursuant to the certificate of authority issued by its domiciliary jurisdiction and all states in which it is licensed to transact business;

5. The surety shall not have received from the NAIC a "first priority" designation for the calendar year ending December 31 immediately preceding its application date;

6. If the surety is a member of an insurance holding company system, its parent or subsidiary shall not have received from the NAIC a "first priority" designation; and

7. The surety shall not have been identified as "second or third priority" and/or failed four or more Insurance Regulatory Information System (IRIS) tests, unless the applicant demonstrates to the Commissioner and its domiciliary jurisdiction that these IRIS test results and/or "priority" identification are not indicative of the applicant being in a hazardous financial condition.

(c) The Department shall publish in the New Jersey Register a list of surety companies that satisfy the requirements set forth in (a) and (b) above in or about September of each year.

(d) A surety seeking to continue to be listed by the Department as having satisfied the requirements set forth in (b) above shall file with the Department a certification in the format of Appendix B to this subchapter no later than August 1 of each year.

(e) Applications and renewal applications to be listed by the Department shall be sent to:

New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance  
 Attention: Surety Company List  
 20 West State Street  
 PO Box 325  
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0325

Public Notice: List of Surety Companies acceptable to provide payment or performance bonds.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4199(a).

Public Notice: List of Surety Companies acceptable to provide payment or performance bonds; administrative correction.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4574(a).

**11:1-41.5 Penalties**

Failure to comply with the provisions of the subchapter shall result in the imposition of penalties as provided by law.

**APPENDIX A**

| Rating Company                        | Three Highest Rating Categories  | Ratings Within Three Highest Categories |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| A.M. Best Company                     | Best's Ratings:<br>1. Superior<br>2. Excellent<br>3. Very Good<br>----OR---- | A + +, A +<br>A, A-<br>B + +, B +       |
|                                       | Financial Performance Rating:  |   |
|                                       | 1. Strong  | 9, 8                                    |
|                                       | 2. Above average   | 7, 6                                    |
|                                       | 3. Average   | 5                                       |
| Standard & Poor's                     | 1. Superior<br>2. Excellent Financial Security<br>3. Good Financial Security | AAA<br>AA +, AA, AA-<br>A +, A, A-      |
| Moody's                               | 1. Exceptional<br>2. Excellent<br>3. Good                                    | Aaa<br>Aa1, Aa2, Aa3<br>A1, A2, A3      |
| Duff and Phelps Credit Rating Company | 1. Highest claims paying ability<br>2. Very high claims paying ability       | AAA<br>AA +, AA, AA-                    |

| Rating Company | Three Highest Rating Categories                    | Ratings Within Three Highest Categories  |
|----------------|--|--|
|                | 3. High claims paying ability                      | A+, A, A-  |
| Weiss          | 1. Excellent<br>2. Good<br>3. Fair                 | A+, A, A-<br>B+, B, B-<br>C+, C, C-<br>(also includes the above ratings with "s" prefix) |
| Fitch          | 1. Extremely strong<br>2. Very strong<br>3. Strong | AAA<br>AA<br>A   |

2. The above-referenced surety's capital and surplus or net cash assets, as of December 31 immediately preceding is \$\_\_\_\_\_, as reported in the statutory annual statement for that year. This amount satisfies the statutorily prescribed minimum capital and surplus or net cash asset requirements for all lines of insurance that the surety is authorized to write pursuant to the certificate of authority issued by its domiciliary jurisdiction and all states in which it is licensed to transact business. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

3. The above-referenced surety been found to be in a hazardous financial condition by the Commissioner, its domiciliary jurisdiction, or any jurisdiction in which it is licensed, as determined pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:2-27 or such other equivalent requirements in other jurisdictions in which the surety is licensed. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, indicate jurisdiction(s) and details regarding such finding below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. The above-referenced surety's premium to surplus ratio as of December 31 immediately preceding is \_\_\_\_\_ and loss and loss adjustment expense reserve liability to surplus ratio for that period is \_\_\_\_\_, as reported in the statutory annual statement for that period.

5. The above-referenced surety received from the NAIC a "first priority" designation for the calendar year ending December 31 immediately preceding its application date. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

6. If the above-referenced surety is a member of an insurance holding company system, its parent or subsidiary has received from the NAIC a "first priority" designation. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

7. The above-referenced surety has been identified as "second or third priority" and/or has failed four or more IRIS tests. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, provide an explanation that demonstrates that such results are not indicative that the surety is in a hazardous financial condition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX B

REQUEST FOR LISTING BY NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AS ACCEPTABLE SURETY FOR PROVISION OF BONDS ON PUBLIC CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO P.L. 1995, C.384

COMPANY NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY NAIC NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 GROUP NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 GROUP NAIC NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby file this certification on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ in connection with this company's application to be listed by New Jersey Department of Insurance for purposes of providing payment and performance bonds pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384. I further certify that I am authorized to execute this certified statement on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_

(Name and Title)

(Name of Surety)

(Name of Surety)

PART I

1. The above-referenced surety is listed in the most recent United States Treasury Circular 570 issued July 1 of each year. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, go to Part III; if no, complete Part II.

PART II

1. The above-referenced surety is currently licensed to transact business in the following jurisdictions for the following lines:

| Jurisdiction | Line  |
|--------------|-------|
| _____        | _____ |
| _____        | _____ |
| _____        | _____ |

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

PART III

Dated and signed this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_. I hereby certify that the foregoing statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I am aware that the New Jersey Department of Insurance will rely on this certification in connection with its

determination whether the surety satisfies the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 11:1-41 for purposes of providing payment and performance bonds pursuant to P.L. 1995, c.384.

I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Affiant)

Administrative correction.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 425(b).

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUBCHAPTER 42. (RESERVED)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUBCHAPTER 43. UNUSUAL HARDSHIP FOR COVERED CLAIMS UNDER THE NEW JERSEY PROPERTY-LIABILITY INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION AND NEW JERSEY SURPLUS LINES INSURANCE GUARANTY FUND

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 17:1-8.1, 17:1-15e, 17:22-6.70 et seq., and 17:30A-1 et seq.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.1997 d.512, effective December 1, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3765(a), 29 N.J.R. 5065(b).

**11:1-43.1 Purpose and scope**

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to set forth the circumstances that shall constitute an "unusual hardship" for the purpose of filing a claim by a claimant with the Association or Fund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-1 et seq. or N.J.S.A. 17:22-6.70 et seq., as applicable.

(b) This subchapter shall apply with respect to all claims filed with the Association or Fund after the final date set by the court for filing of claims against the liquidator or receiver of an insolvent insurer.

**11:1-43.2 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 Banking and Insurance.

"Covered claim" is as defined in N.J.S.A. 17:30A-5 or 17:22-6.72, as applicable.

"Department" means the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

"Due date" means the final date set by the court for the filing of claims against the liquidator or receiver of an insolvent insurer."

"Fund" means the New Jersey Surplus Lines Insurance Guaranty Fund established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:22-6.70 et seq.

"Insolvent insurer" is as defined at N.J.S.A. 17:30A-5 or 17:22-6.72, as applicable.

**11:1-43.3 Unusual hardship**

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:30A-5 and 17:22-6.72, as applicable, a covered claim by the Association or Fund shall not include a claim filed with the Association or Fund, as applicable, after the final date set by the court for the filing of claims against the liquidator or receiver of an insolvent insurer, unless the claimant demonstrates unusual hardship, as determined pursuant to this subchapter, and the Commissioner approves of the treatment of the claim as a covered claim.

(b) For purposes of (a) above, a claimant may show unusual hardship by filing information that demonstrates any of the following:

1. The claimant never received notice of the due date for filing claims;
  - i. The claimant shall be presumed to have received notice if the notice was timely mailed to the claimant's address currently on file with insurer;
2. The mailing address of the claimant in the insurer's records is erroneous, and the claimant demonstrates that he or she notified the insurer or its agent of a change in address;
3. The claimant was incapable of responding to the notice due to an emergent and extreme medical event or similar emergent and extreme circumstance; or
4. The claimant is deceased, and the claimant's estate demonstrates that the death occurred within such a time period that the representative of the claimant's estate did not have sufficient time to advise the insurer or its agent of such circumstance.

(c) Requests for treatment of a claim on the basis of unusual hardship shall contain the following information:

1. The name, address, social security number, telephone number, and date of birth of the claimant making the application;
2. The policy number;

3. The name of the insured, if different than the claimant;

4. A description of the particular reason(s) that constitute unusual hardship as set forth in (b) above; and

5. Copies of all documents required to support the request, including, but not limited to, as applicable:

i. Notice to the insurer or agent of change of address;

ii. Death certificate;

iii. Report from a physician that specifies the type of medical condition or injury that prevented the claimant from filing a timely claim, the date such condition or injury first occurred, the date treatment was initiated, and any other relevant information; and

iv. Any additional information or documentation the Association or Fund, as applicable, or the Commissioner may specifically request from a particular claimant.

(d) Completed requests shall be sent to the Association or Fund at:

New Jersey Property-Liability Insurance Guaranty Association

(or New Jersey Surplus Lines Insurance Guaranty Fund)

Unusual Hardship Request

PO Box 868

466 Southern Blvd.

Chatham, NJ 07928

(e) The Association or Fund, as applicable, shall notify the claimant, or his or her legal representative, by certified mail, return receipt requested, whether it has approved the request for a finding of unusual hardship. The Association or Fund shall concurrently file a copy of its determination with the Department. No determination by the Association or Fund, as applicable, to approve a request for a finding of unusual hardship shall be deemed to constitute acceptance

of the claim otherwise as a covered claim or approval of any payment of the claim.

#### 11:1-43.4 Request for review by the Commissioner

(a) A claimant may request a review by the Commissioner of a determination of the Association or Fund, as applicable, denying a request for a finding of unusual hardship within 20 days of receipt of the Association's or Fund's written decision by submitting to the Commissioner a request for review addressed to:

Office of Financial Solvency

New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance

20 West State Street

PO Box 325

Trenton, NJ 08625-0325

(b) A request for review shall include those items presented in the initial request, a written statement explaining why the determination of the Association or Fund denying the initial request was incorrect, and any additional documentation in support of the request for review.

1. A copy of the request for review shall be simultaneously filed by the claimant with the Association or Fund, as applicable.

2. The Association or Fund, upon receipt of the request for review, shall forward the claimant's file to the Commissioner for his or her review.

(c) The Commissioner's final decision shall be provided to the Association or Fund, as applicable, and shall be mailed to the claimant or his or her legal representative by certified mail, return receipt requested and by regular mail. The Commissioner's decision shall constitute a final agency decision.

#### 11:1-43.5 Confidentiality

All documents provided by a claimant pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:1-43.3 shall be confidential and shall not be subject to public inspection or copying pursuant to the "Right-to-Know" law, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

3. Involvement in an accident in connection with which neither the named insured nor any other driver insured under the policy was convicted of a moving traffic violation and the owner or operator of another vehicle involved in such accident was so convicted;

4. For physical damage losses other than collision;

5. For an accident in which the motor vehicle was struck in the rear by another vehicle and a driver insured under the policy has not been convicted of a moving violation in connection with the accident; or

6. For an accident occurring as a result of operation of any motor vehicle in response to an emergency if the operator at the time of the accident was responding to the call to duty as a paid or volunteer member of any police or fire department, first aid squad or any law enforcement agency.

“Automobile” means an automobile as defined in N.J.S.A. 39:6A-2.

“Automobile insurance” means insurance for an automobile including any or all of the following coverages: bodily injury liability, and property damage liability, comprehensive and collision coverages, uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage, personal injury protection coverage, additional personal injury protection coverage and any other automobile insurance required by law.

“Automobile insurance eligibility points” means points calculated under the schedule promulgated by the Commissioner pursuant to this subchapter.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of New Jersey.

“Department” means the Department of Insurance of the State of New Jersey.

“State” means the State of New Jersey.

Public Notice: Receipt of petition for rulemaking and action on petition.  
See: 28 N.J.R. 1565(b).

#### Case Notes

Insurer could not refuse renewal of automobile policy based upon eligibility points accumulated in “collision” where insured’s automobile was damaged by falling object. *Geist v. Selective Insurance Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 75.

Driver’s automobile insurance application properly denied for two at-fault accidents. *Belmonte v. Department of Insurance*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 51.

Insurer erred in finding insured more than 50 percent at fault for three-car accident where another driver was convicted of careless driving in connection with that collision. *Hoke v. National Consumer Insurance Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 22.

Insurer could decline renewal of automobile policy based upon insured’s two at-fault accidents. *DiFrancesco v. Continental Casualty Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 17.

Charge to which insured pleaded guilty in New York, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence, was substantially similar in nature to an offense in New Jersey and justified nonrenewal of automobile policy. *Chillemi v. Selective Insurance*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 89.

At fault accident in which insured was involved was an event under automobile policy giving insurer right to decline renewal. *Wenzler v. ITT Hartford*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 47.

Police report established five-point at fault accident which, when combined with six-point speeding violations, justified insurer in declining to renew automobile policy. *Fichera v. Liberty Mutual*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 41.

Insured at-fault for automobile accident; insured could decline to renew insurance. *AMICA Mutual Insurance Co. v. Farley*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 51.

#### 11:3-34.4 Eligible person qualifications

(a) An “eligible person” is a person who is an owner or registrant of an automobile registered and principally garaged in this State or who is resident and holds a valid New Jersey driver’s license to operate an automobile, but does not include any person:

1. Who, during the three-year period immediately preceding application for, or renewal of, an automobile insurance policy has been convicted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-50 or N.J.S.A. 39:4-50.4a or for an offense of a substantially similar nature committed in another jurisdiction;

2. Who has been convicted of a crime of the first, second or third degree resulting from the use of a motor vehicle; or has been convicted of theft of a motor vehicle;

3. Whose driver’s license to operate an automobile is under suspension or revocation;

4. Who has been convicted, within the five-year period immediately preceding application for or renewal of a policy of automobile insurance, of fraud or intent to defraud involving an insurance claim or an application for insurance;

5. Who has been successfully denied, within the immediately preceding five years, payment by an insurer of a claim in excess of \$1,000 under an automobile insurance policy, if there was evidence of fraud or intent to defraud involving the automobile insurance claim or application. For the purpose of this section:

i. If the claim has been subject to litigation between the insurer and the insured in which the insurer defended against payment of the claim in whole or in part on grounds of fraud, it shall be conclusively presumed that the claim was successfully denied if judgment was entered for the insurer in the litigation; and conclusively presumed that the claim was not successfully denied if judgment was entered for the insured;

ii. If the claim has not been subject to litigation between the insurer and the insured, but the insurer denied the claim without payment by reason of fraud, it shall be presumed that the claim was successfully de-

nied. This presumption may be overcome in an administrative proceeding pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:3-33;

iii. If the incident was not reported to the New Jersey Department of Insurance, Fraud Division pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-9 it shall be presumed that there was no evidence of fraud or intent to defraud;

6. Whose automobile insurance policy has been cancelled for nonpayment of premiums or financed premium with a lapse of coverage of at least 30 days, within the immediately preceding two-year period, unless the premium due on a policy for which application has been made is paid in full before issuance or renewal of the policy. For the purpose of this section, "paid in full" shall not include any transaction in which a lender obtains authority from an insured to cancel the policy and receive a refund from the insurer in the event the insured defaults on a loan used to pay the premium;

7. Who fails to obtain or maintain membership or qualification for membership in a club, group, or organization, if membership is a uniform requirement of the insurer as a condition of providing insurance, and if the dues or charges, if any, or other conditions for membership or qualifications for membership are applied uniformly throughout this State, are not expressed as a percentage of the insurance premium, and do not vary with respect to the rating classification of the member or potential member except for the purpose of offering a membership fee to family units. Membership fees, if applicable, may vary in accordance with the amount or type of coverage if the purchase of additional coverage, either as to type or amount, is not a condition for reduction of dues or fees;

8. Whose driving record for the three year period immediately preceding the application for or renewal of a policy of automobile insurance has an accumulation of nine or more automobile insurance eligibility points as determined in N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.5; or

9. Who is a named insured or who is insured under the same policy as a person whose driver's license is suspended or revoked and either:

i. The suspended or revoked driver has been convicted of a violation of N.J.S.A. 39:6B-2 within the previous three years; or

ii. Other evidence exists indicating that the suspended or revoked driver has been operating a vehicle during the period of suspension.

(b) An "eligible person" includes a person who is an owner or registrant of an automobile registered in this State or who holds a valid New Jersey driver's license to operate an automobile and is domiciled in this State who is temporarily residing out-of-State and whose car may be principally garaged in another state while the person either is a full time student or is in the military service and is stationed out-of-State.

Emergency Amendment, R.1992 d.380, effective September 4, 1992 (expires November 3, 1992).

See: 24 N.J.R. 3420(a).

Text added to (a)6 to specify a lapse of at least 30 days.

Adopted Concurrent Proposal, R.1992 d.481, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 3420(a), 24 N.J.R. 4396(a).

Provisions of Emergency Amendment R.1992 d.380 readopted with changes effective December 7, 1992.

Emergency Amendment R.1993 d.135, effective March 1, 1993. (Operative March 8, 1993) (expires April 30, 1993.)

See: 25 N.J.R. 1290(a).

Definition of eligible person added at (b).

Adopted Concurrent Proposal, R.1993 d.238, effective April 30, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1290(a), 25 N.J.R. 2479(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.246, effective June 3, 1996.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2048(a), 28 N.J.R. 3002(b).

Added (a)9.

#### Case Notes

Nonrenewal of automobile insurance policy was upheld where insured motorist exceeded maximum number of automobile insurance eligibility points. *Woo v. State Farm Insurance Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 99.

Insurer's nonrenewal of automobile policy justified when insured accumulates 10 eligibility points from two accidents for which insured is at fault. *Premi v. New Jersey Manufacturers Ins. Co.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 9.

Renewal of automobile policy for one period despite accumulation of points did not preclude nonrenewal in next period for same points. *Liberty Mutual v. Lee*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 38.

Accident in which insured was at fault, when combined with two other accidents in period of coverage, justified nonrenewal for accumulation of too many points. *New Jersey Manufacturers v. Sandor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 36.

Accumulation of nine or more points by member of insured's household justified nonrenewal of auto policy, *Pandola v. State Farm*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 32.

Insured who was otherwise eligible for automobile insurance in voluntary market could obtain coverage for vehicles registered to her notwithstanding her husband's license suspension. *Kwok v. First Trenton*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 29.

Decision not to renew automobile insurance policy was improper. *Capasso v. State Farm Indemnity Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 59.

Eligibility points for accident prior to effective date of regulation not ex post facto violation. *Selective Insurance Company v. Diana*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 58.

#### 11:3-34.5 Automobile insurance eligibility points

(a) Automobile insurance eligibility points shall be accumulated as a result of convictions, suspensions, revocations and determinations of responsibility for civil infractions in accordance with the schedule set forth in the Appendix to this subchapter herein incorporated by reference.

(b) Automobile insurance eligibility points shall be deemed to accrue as follows:

1. Points for an at-fault accident shall accrue on the date that total payment by the insurer equals or exceeds \$500.00. An insurer may, at its option, use the date of the accident or date of first payment provided, however, that the insurer shall not underwrite or rate any policy based on the accident until total payment by the insurer equals or exceeds \$500.00; and further provided that the insurer shall use the optional date consistently in all cases.